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Camilla meets the workers at town's Physic Garden

Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, meets the Physic Garden team in Cowbridge (see next week for more photos).
(Picture by MIKE WILCOCK)

CAMILLA, Duchess of Cornwall, made a welcome return visit to the Cowbridge Physic Garden yesterday (Wednesday) five years after she officially opened it.

It was a special day for all the volunteers involved with the Physic Garden, but it was extra special for four volunteers – Mrs Rose Clay, Mrs Mary Wallis, Mrs Val Thomas and Mr Robert Moore.

They spent 20 minutes with the Duchess, giving her a guided tour of the garden, and going into detail about the plants and flowers that were being nurtured.

Martyn Hurst, of the Physic Garden Trust, explained: "The Duchess is a keen gardener and specifically asked to meet volunteers who 'got their hands dirty' working in the garden.

"She wanted to know more about how the garden had developed over the last five years."

After her guided tour, she joined invited guests for a reception in the Old Hall Gardens.

Martyn Hurst said the trust was delighted that the Duchess had renewed her patronage of the Physic Garden.

He said: "A royal patronage lasts five years, but with so many competing worthy causes, there are occasions when that patronage has to come to an end."

It was a busy day for the Duchess. Her first call was a joint visit with Prince Charles to the *Doctor Who* set in Cardiff Bay, where she was due to meet the 'Doctor', Matt Smith, and his current travelling companion 'Clara', Jenna-Louise Coleman.

This visit was always likely to dominate when it came to the TV news in the evening.

After that, the Duchess dashed to Porthcawl to visit another charity of which she is a patron, Emmaus, and then she made a 20-minute sprint to Cowbridge!

See next week's GEM for more on the royal visit.

PHILIP IRWIN

Job opportunity at The GEM!
(See our Facebook page for details)

Meeting vows to fight plans to drill in Vale

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

CONCERNED Cowbridge residents were out in force last Wednesday (June 26) to voice their feelings on the controversial issue of drilling for shale gas in the Vale.

The meeting was held in Cowbridge Town Hall– to "give a public forum to the subject of fracking".

Spokesman Rob McGhee told The GEM: "The meeting was well-attended with representatives from national organisations who are seeking a ban on fracking activity throughout Wales."

Three planning applications for exploratory drilling have been made by Coastal Oil & Gas, a Bridgend company, centring on Llantrithyd, Dyffryn and again at Llandow.

Rob McGhee said: "Major concerns were raised about key issues, such as the risk of ground and surface water contamination; damage to property from earth tremors caused by drilling activity and the mass influx of heavy lorries."

Louise Evans of 'The Vale Says No' campaign said: "People seem to be unaware of the fact that the gas extraction process requires, not just one or two wells to be drilled but hundreds, each requiring thousands of gallons of water to be tankered in and chemical waste to be removed.

"In response to my concerns about the drilling process, I am often told that all necessary safeguards will be put in place, to avoid risking human health or environmental damage.

"However, once this process is started, there is no room for error. It only takes one fault to occur and the damage is done – the effects being widespread and long-lasting.

"Do we really want to put short-term gain over the health of our communities and irreversibly damage the natural environment in the Vale?"

Rob McGhee added: "The outcome of the meeting was for action to be taken to raise awareness of the impacts that gas drilling will have in the Vale.

"Specific focus is to be placed on an appeal to the local landowners who are negotiating with Coastal Oil & Gas.

"A petition is also being organised and this will be sent to the Welsh Assembly, in a bid to stop fracking activity in Wales.

"Further information can be obtained on the following websites: *www.thevalesaysno.com, www.Frackfree wales.com, www.llantrithyd.com.*"

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Schoolgirl joins relief work in the Philippines

MELISA GOODING, a pupil in year-12 at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, is part of a team called 'Wild Fire' spending three weeks as volunteers with the charity – YOUTH with a MISSION (YWAM) in Cagyan de Oro, Mindanao, Philippines.

It was severely affected by the tsunami of 2004 and YWAM has had an international team there since 2005.

In December 2011, the island of Mindanao was hit again – this time by Typhoon Washi. Heavy rains caused destructive flash flooding which killed over 1,200 people and left hundreds more still missing. Nearly 50,000 homes were damaged or destroyed.

Melisa's brother Simon is at present on the Logos Hope ship and will be involved in a building project over the next few weeks in Porta Princessa, also part of the Philippines.

Melisa said: "This poverty is heartbreaking. I want to do my bit to bring hope."

The project in the Philippines will involve working with local people in the slums and fishing villages, and helping with ongoing projects.

Her Dad (Dale) is swimming a mile tomorrow (Friday, July 6) in a local swimming pool and is asking friends and supporters to sponsor him.

Cowbridge Fire Station has also offered to hold a charity car wash on Saturday, July 13, to help Melisa raise funds needed.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LLANBETHERY & LLANCARFAN

Your community correspondents are Sam & Patsie Smith on (01446) 751448

Llancarfan village show

THE Llancarfan Village Show will be held in the village hall and St Cadoc's (flower classes) on Saturday, July 13 – doors open to the public at 1.45pm.

Alun Cairns, the local MP, has kindly agreed to present cups and prizes at 4pm.

The show programmes, giving all details of the classes and timings, can be obtained by contacting Ann Ferris 01446 781350 or Sue Taylor 01446 781453.

A lot of work has gone into this show, so please exhibit and bring the family along on the day.

Musicians and the Llancarfan Primary School Choir will perform during the course of the afternoon.

Flower Festival

A SUMMER flower festival will be held in St Augustine's Church, Penarth, to coincide with the Penarth Festival on July 12, 13, 14.

There will be live music by local artists and children accompanied by an adult, will be encouraged to make their own displays and help to create a sand garden. Penarth's Town Mayor Coun Neil Thomas will be opening the festival on Friday, July 12 at 6.30pm.

Admission £2.50p, children admitted free. All proceed to restoration of the Roll of Honour, in time for the World War One centenary.

For more details, telephone 029 2070 7828.

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews. co.uk

Is Cemetery Approach a lost golden opportunity?

THE political grapevine indicates that a report may go to the Vale cabinet, concerning the future of Cemetery Approach.

This valuable urban open space was saved from unsuitable housing development by the people of Barry, 11,300 of whom signed a protest petition.

The Save Cemetery Approach Action Group, of which I was secretary and press officer, launched the campaign and prepared compelling evidence that forced the developers to pull out of a scheduled public inquiry.

The action group proposed that the area should be developed as a community project in partnership with the borough and town council with local people having a key input into any proposals.

The consultation undertaken by the Vale, however, has been a total sham.

During our campaign to save Cemetery Approach, suggestions from townspeople included the land being linked to the adjacent Barry Cemetery as a conservation area to include limited parking for cemetery visitors; a mother and child play and rest area; a garden section suitable for use by disabled people and children, perhaps enlisting the 'green finger' skills of local allotment holders.

Some thought that an occasional open-air 'shop' should be opened where local people could buy fresh produce grown on the allotments.

These various ideas – or any others that were feasible – would have enabled the borough council to set a fine example of how initiatives run jointly by communities and councils can promote a better environment and enhance the area we live in.

However, these ideas seem to have been given short shrift by the Vale's so-called consultation process, even though Groundwork Wales and other voluntary organisations expressed interest in the site's potential – as an exemplar of what could be achieved by the two councils and the community working together.

If this is the case, then the local authority has missed a golden opportunity because such a scheme would have stood a good chance of attracting considerable external funding, an invaluable boost in these straitened times.

Derek Hooper,
Barry.

Fresh approach on Cemetery issue?

IF we are to believe what we read on Twitter, Cemetery Approach will again be considered by the council cabinet.

During the election, the Labour Party promised to 'give the public a bigger say on the things that really matter to them and listen to their views' and also to consult the public on Cemetery Approach, but the process conducted by the council was less than satisfactory.

A single individual could have submitted many responses and allotments were given a favourable emphasis; even though the council had previously said the ground was unsuitable.

Perhaps this time, the cabinet can come up with an imaginative decision. A way forward that involves people who care about the location, who value this townscape, and are willing to work together to achieve a desirable outcome.

The council's corporate plan refers to 'a new kind of relationship and cooperation between citizens and local government'.

Cemetery Approach provides an excellent opportunity for the council to implement this plan, potentially resulting in the enrichment of a much-loved approach to the cemetery.

Dennis Harkus (FocusBARRY member)

'Barry must take action'

THERE are many reasons why Barry is left to wallow in its own misery. I witnessed one when I drove from Lampeter – it was a good run until I came off the M4 at Junction 33.

From there, it took me one hour, 20 minutes to get home...

We do not have council members who stand up for Barry – they seem to be locked in their own little kingdoms.

Nothing will change until the people of Barry take action - but I won't hold my breath (I am close to 70 now).

Robert Darer,
Barry.

Talk to the NHS!

THE NHS in south Wales is currently consulting about the future of maternity and neonatal care, children's and A&E services.

Between now and July 19, they want to hear from as many people as possible about the proposed changes.

This can be done by attending one of the public meetings in your area, emailing them at *swresponse@wales.nhs.uk* or by writing to SWP, PO Box 4368, Cardiff, CF14 8JN.

It is a pity it has come to this, but this is due to the failure of the Welsh Government to tackle the staff shortages in our health service.

Coun Richard Bertin
(Independent, Vale of Glamorgan Council)

YMCA celebrates work of charities

YMCA Barry went to the Senedd recently – as one of the charities supported which helps Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales which helps disadvantaged people across Wales.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Mike Smith, YMCA Barry; Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale; Jane Lane, Advocacy Matters; Anthea Clements, YMCA Barry; and Steve Davies, Spectacle Theatre Company.

Professor Sir Ian Diamond, Chair of the Foundation, said: "The Foundation is committed to supporting disadvantaged people to play a fuller role in communities. This reception has given us the opportunity to celebrate and recognise the hard work of small and medium sized charities working to tackle disadvantage in Wales."

Anthea Clements, CEO of YMCA Barry, said: "The event has been an excellent opportunity for charities and AMs to come together and talk about the work we are doing to support disadvantaged people and communities across Wales. The support from the Foundation has been fundamental in helping us to continue our vital work with vulnerable people who need help."

'FUNDING CUTS ARE TO BLAME'

THE leader of the Welsh Conservatives Andrew RT Davies AM, attacks the Assembly Government for cutting the bus service operators' grant.

He, of course, like all Welsh Conservative politicians, chooses to ignore and not mention the £1.7 billion funding cuts imposed by the Conservative-led UK Coalition Government on the Welsh people.

This savage cut to Welsh funding means the Welsh Government has been forced to make some very difficult spending choices.

Where would he and his fellow Conservative Assembly members make cuts?

Would he like the Westminster Coalition Government to cut the services that help to look after the most vulnerable, the disabled, the old and the poor? Just who would he penalise?

Let's have an honest answer from you Mr Davies, not the usual silence we get from Welsh Conservative politicians when asked about the funding by the Coalition that affects the Welsh people.

G Smith,
Llantwit Major.

'Thank you, one and all'

I SHOULD like to thank all those friends who sent me their best wishes via birthday cards, for my 102nd birthday on June 26.

Whether I will see another such occasion remains to be seen — the future is not ours to foretell, so thank you all.

Alfred Mills, Barry.

'Let us what you think about the Big Lottery'

WE are inviting readers to tell us what they think of the Big Lottery Fund's work in Wales by taking part in 100 Big Voices.

It's 100 to tie in with the £100,000 daily amount we award in Wales to help communities most in need.

And in recognition of this, we aim to gather at least 100 voices from the public, projects we've funded, stakeholders and perhaps the odd celebrity, to help showcase all the wonderful things that are being achieved through our funding. There are some really amazing things happening right on our doorsteps, helping people from all walks of life.

To help demonstrate this, we would like everyone to watch a short film on the web page featuring three touching stories about people whose lives have been helped by our funding.

After you've watched it, discover how you can get your voice heard. So enjoy the film and participate here www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/100bigvoices.

John Rose,
Wales Director, Big Lottery Fund.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 11)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
04 Thur	04.15	7.9	16.47	8.1
05 Fri	05.15	9.4	17.38	8.4
06 Sat	06.01	8.6	18.23	8.7
07 Sun	06.46	8.8	19.04	8.9
08 Mon	07.25	9.0	19.39	9.2
09 Tues	08.01	9.1	20.12	9.3
10 Wed	08.33	9.2	20.47	9.3
11 Thur	09.05	9.2	21.21	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

E-Mail Contacts: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk* • *gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk* • Tel 01446 774484
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90th birthday celebration for Cowbridge clergyman

Parishioners at Holy Cross Church celebrate the Rev John Marshall's 90th birthday. **PHOTOGRAPH by MIKE WILCOCK.**

ABOVE: Canon Derek Belcher with Rev John Marshall, his son Huw and daughter-in-law Magdalena (standing on right). **PHOTOGRAPH by MIKE WILCOCK.**

THE Rev John Marshall recently celebrated his 90th birthday at Holy Cross Church, surrounded by his many friends.

Canon Derel Belcher said: "Father John was overwhelmed by the event. There was a warm atmosphere with a wonderful buffet prepared by the parishioners, and he felt thoroughly spoilt.

"It was a great pleasure for us to organise the event in celebration of Father John's birthday, because he has served the benefice of Cowbridge faithfully over a long period of time.

"We all look forward to Fr John celebrating his 100th birthday!"

'Passing on foreign coins to partially sighted is despicable'

A Cardiff man has contacted The GEM to say it is 'despicable' that his relative, who is partially sighted and shops in Cowbridge, is often given foreign coins in change.

Mr Tony Madsen said the fact that any shop may have inadvertently taken the coins was no excuse, because "two wrongs don't make a right".

Mr Madsen said: "My relation regularly shops in Cowbridge.

"This person is aged and only partially sighted, and tends to offer a purse for the vendor to extract the appropriate cash.

"My relation is frequently given useless foreign coins in change from one or other of the shops and, of course, is unable to notice.

"The fact that someone had probably given the shop the 'duff' coins in the first place is neither here nor there because the shop assistant should be able to check what is given to them.

"In passing them on, especially to someone who is vulnerable, I would point out that two wrongs don't make a right!"

Most recently, Mr Madsen says his relative received German and Spanish coins.

He added: "To those who are often knowingly taking advantage of a person who is visually impaired, I say you are both dishonest and despicable."

The police told The GEM that instances such as the one reported by Mr Madsen were civil matters which could be referred to Trading Standards.

Primary pupils learn on site

CHILDREN at Llanhari Primary School swapped the classroom for a construction site visit organised by Lovell at its Bryn Celyn housing development.

They were shown round by site manager Chris King and community liaison officer Bernadette Vickery.

Said Bernadette Vickery: "As well as seeing a crane, forklift, digger and cement mixer in action, they talked to some of the team working on site about their jobs. "They were with us for an hour and had a look at a number of houses in different stages of construction," says Bernadette Vickery of Lovell. "The children were fascinated by everything and came up with a constant stream of questions. We thoroughly enjoyed having them here."

Bridge results

RESULTS for Cowbridge and District (Llanbleddian) Bridge Club for Tuesday, June 25:

1st Barbara and Colin Easterbrook 58.33%; 2nd Margaret and Mostyn Bancroft 55%; 3rd Ann Miller and Judith Nunn 54.58%; 4th = Brian Swain and Dennis Smith 51.25%; 4th = Pauline Lane and Hugh Williams 51.25%. ME

Play area is 'spruced up'

THE Vale Council leader, Neil Moore, joined the children of Peterston-super-Ely for the official opening of their spruced-up play area.

The village has also benefited from new benches in the playing fields and a new community orchard.

The £60,000 project in Peterston-super-Ely was funded by a £40,000 grant from Creative Rural Communities, the rural regeneration team within the Vale of Glamorgan Council, and £5,000 from the council's Community Action Self Help fund.

The remaining amount was obtained through fundraising by the community council, Peterston Connect and Peterston Play Station.

In January 2012, Creative Rural Communities hosted a community consultation attended by more than 100 residents who gave ideas on how the village could be improved.

Residents have since held sports days, fun runs and village hall events to raise funds to help turn their ideas into reality.

The Peterston-super-Ely project was funded through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007–2013, which is funded by the Welsh Government and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

The funding is administered by Creative Rural Communities, the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Rural Regeneration initiative.

School finds it is good to talk

A LOCAL primary school has solved its communication problem, by investing in a new telephone system.

Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School has updated its current phone system to address communication challenges across the school's two buildings.

Paul Fisher explained: "From a health and safety point of view, efficient communication throughout the whole school is vital.

"Our old communications system was proving ineffective and inefficient, as the nursery building was unable to contact the main building without contacting reception."

Big moment on stage for two dancers!

Rachel Bent and William Griffin of Cowbridge.

TWO young Cowbridge dancers' dreams have come true.

William Griffin (17) and Rachel Bent (14) were selected at an audition in March from over 200 young hopefuls.

They will appear in a new adaptation of *Giselle* at the New Theatre in Cardiff, for three performances from July 25-26 with English Youth Ballet (EYB).

All the young dancers in the cast will dance alongside EYB's international principal artists in a professional production. They will gain an insight into life as a professional ballet dancer.

The young cast are currently engaged with the EYB's principal dancers in rehearsals at Fitzalalan High School in a 10-day intensive rehearsal process. The selected dancers are being inspired and mentored by the principal dancers.

British principal ballerina, Julianne Rice Oxley, said: "The young dancers we are working with in Cardiff have great energy and attack. Working in a professional environment gives the students a unique insight into life in a ballet company."

Both dancers are pupils at the Cowbridge Comprehensive School and are studying dance at the Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Ballet.

William said: "I am 17 now and I started when I was three-ish. I don't know why I started dancing – I think I was probably plonked in a class and left there!

"I think what I like about dance so much is the movement and always trying to improve. I think that dancing with EYB will be very different and I am looking forward to the experience."

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BUSY WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE TOWN MAYOR

SINCE my last newsletter, I have had quite a busy time on council business – on June 16, my consort and I attended a civic service for the Mayor of Porthcawl.

This was an interesting service, and afterwards we met with the chairmen of some of the smaller councils from the Valleys above Bridgend.

It was instructive to hear of the problems in these areas, especially concerning closed shops – a problem we are beginning to see in Cowbridge.

On June 20, we went to see the art and design entries for GCSE and A-level exams. The standard of work was amazing and parents we met spoke very highly of the skills and dedication of the staff concerned.

On Friday, I had a meeting with my chaplain, Canon Belcher, and the church warden Mrs Pamela Roberts, to discuss the Cowbridge civic service to take place on July14.

This was a very productive meeting and my thanks go to the Town Clerk and the church representatives for arranging what I am sure will be a very special service.

Saturday morning was Armed Forces Parade Day in Penarth – a day of tributes to our armed services, which we were honoured to attend. Monday morning saw a flag raising service, again in Penarth, to commemorate iyr armned forces.

Tuesday was a meeting to set up a Marie Curie support group in Cowbridge. This was well attended, and I am sure they will be a group of supporters that will be of great service to the charity.

On Thursday morning, I spent a delightful time in Holy Cross Church with youngsters about to leave their primary schools to attend Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

It was exciting to be with so many children (approximately 150) starting out on a new phase of their school life.

I presented them all with a booklet to explain what will happen in senior school. I hope they will enjoy their school as much as I did.

I have also attended two evening meetings in Cowbridge, not in my capacity as mayor, but very important to the future of our community.

The first was a very well attended community health meeting to take our views and opinions on the future of A&E and maternity services in our area.

We are hopeful that the chosen option will be to retain these services in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

The second meeting was to discuss the possible drilling for shale gas in three sites in the Vale of Glamorgan. Concerns were expressed regarding possible water contamination, a drop in house values, unsightly drilling engines, and increased heavy traffic that would be entailed.

COUN GWEN BATY,
Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian.

Outing to the Royal Welsh

A BUS trip to the Royal Welsh Show has been organised, leaving Cowbridge Town Hall at 8am on Tuesday, July 23.

For details, telephone Cath Thomas on 01446 774530.

Elmer is coming to Cowbridge

ELMER the patchwork elephant is coming to Cowbridge on Saturday, July 13, as the guest of the Cowbridge Book Festival at Cowbridge Community College's family fun day in the Old Hall.

Festival story teller Nanny Lea, who delighted so many last year with tales of The Gruffalo, will tell the wonderful story of David McKee's much loved, multicoloured elephant.

Elmer is an elephant who has a colourful body, with yellow, orange, red, pink, purple, blue, green, black and white arranged as a patchwork. He has many adventures and all his friends love him because he is so kind, cheerful and fun loving.

The book carries a subtle message that it is OK to be different and, combined with the vibrant colour and cheeky humour of the main character, the popularity of the Elmer series is guaranteed for many years to come.

Although the day will centre on five story-telling sessions at 10.15am, 11.30am, 1pm, 2.30pm, 3.45pm, with Elmer making an appearance at each one, it is also planned to have fun activities for families.

There will be the chance to have a go at making your own patchwork elephant, book marks and try your hand at paper craft also Play Aloud will be setting up their tepee in the Old Hall gardens; all these extra activities will be free.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Noah's Ark Appeal Children's Hospital of Wales, and Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research.

For further information, visit the festival website www.cowbridgebookfestival.co.uk

Tickets for the Elmer Story Telling are £3 and they are available from Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge; David Barnes (Dry cleaners) 35 High Street, Cowbridge, Nicklebys Pound Field, Llantwit Major, or online from TicketlineUK 02920 230130, or telephone Stella Cheeseman on 01446 774827.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Celebration time!

TREOES villagers – mums, dads, children and grandparents, were at the opening of the long-awaited Treoes allotments.

It really had a carnival atmosphere, with flags and balloons which added to the spirit to the occasion. Refreshments were available, all contributed by the villagers.

Our Vale AM, Jane Hutt, spoke of the help that is available for projects such as the Treoes allotments .

Special guest, Terry Walton, the well-known gardening broadcaster, gave an interesting and amusing account of his gardening career which began at the age of 12.

At the conclusion of his address, he was presented with a gleaming new spade by the Treoes Brownies.

Cycling test

CHILDREN in year-6 have taken part in the annual proficiency cycle test.

On June 28, they spent a day at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, followed by an evening disco.

They will leave Llangan school at the end of the summer term, to continue their education at Cowbridge.

On July 9, Llangan school sports day takes place, weather permitting.

Reminder

ON July 12, the popular Minnesingers will perform in St Canna's Church, Llangan, at 7.30pm.

Tickets £7, including raffle ticket.

Barn dance

TICKETS are still available for the forthcoming barn dance at Penllyne Estate on July 13 (at 6.30pm).

'The Thingumijigs Ceilidh Band' will provide the music for this popular event; hog roast; admission – adults £10, children £4.

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(VARIOUS PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS)

(ANTI-TERRORISM) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2013

The Vale of Glamorgan Council, following the recommendation of the Chief Constable of Police, and in exercise of its powers as Highway Authority under Sections 14(1) and 22C of the Road traffic regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, for the purposes of avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism, intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order the general effect of which will be to introduce prohibitions, restrictions and limitations in those locations and during those times specified below:

Pursuant to the powers afforded by section 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the use of the public highway, by all classes of user, with the exception of use by a) vehicles of the Emergency Services or b) other classes of user to be agreed with the Chief Constable South Wales Police in the interests of Airport Security and Public safety will be limited as shown by temporary markings, physical barriers and signs in so far as such use may be restricted by the above Act.

The powers described above may be exercised so such an extent that any provision of any existing Permanent Order, or the provisions of this Temporary Order, may, be commenced, suspended, varied or revived during its duration.

Except as provided by this Order:

No person shall proceed on foot or cause or permit any vehicle or cycle to proceed, stop or wait at any time, in the location specified within the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

Location	All roads between the roundabout where the airport access road meets the A4226/B4265 and the junctions where the two airport access roads meet Port Road.
Reason	These prohibitions, restrictions and limitations are made for the purpose of avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads; avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism or for a purpose relating to danger or damage connected with terrorism (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000).
Duration	From 18.01 hours on 30th July 2013 for a maximum period of 18 Months.
Alt. Route	The diversions for south east bound traffic will be from the roundabout adjacent to the Aircraft Maintenance Facility, then in a south easterly direction along the A4226 to the roundabout at the junction with Port Road then in a south westerly direction along Port Road, to the Airport and vice-versa.

Dated this 4th day of July 2013

M. E. Punter,
Head of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

AMRYWIOL FFYRDD, MAES AWYR CAERDYDD

(AMRYWIOL WAHARDDIADAU A CHYFYNGIADAU AR SYMUDIADAU GAN GERBYDAU A CHERDDWYR)

GORCHYMYN (GWRTHDERFYSGAETH) (DROS DRO) 2013

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, yn dilyn argymhelliad Prif Gwnstabl yr Heddlu, ac wrth arfer ei bwerau fel Awdurdod Cefnffyrdd o dan Adrannau 14(1) a 22C o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, gyda'r bwriad o osgoi, leihau, neu leihau'r tebygoliaeth o'r perygl a gysylltir â therfysgaeth, yn bwriadu ar ôl saith diwrnod o ddyddiad y Rhybudd hwn i wneud gorchymyn gyda'r effaith gyffredinol o gyflwyno gwaharddiadau a chyfyngiadau yn y lleoliadau, ac ar yr adegau, a enwir isod:

Yn unol â'r pwerau a roddir gan adran 22C o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, bydd y defnydd o'r briffordd gyhoeddus, gan bob dosbarth o ddefnyddwyr, ac eithrio defnydd gan a) gerbydau'r Gwasanaethau Brys neu b) dosbarthau eraill o ddefnyddwyr i'w cytuno gyda Phrif Gwnstabl Heddlu De Cymru er budd Diogelwch y Maes Awyr a Diogelwch y Cyhoedd, yn cael ei gyfyngu i'r hyn a ddangosir gan farciau dros dro, rhwystrau corfforol ac arwyddion cyn belled â bo hawl i'r cyfryw ddefnydd gael ei gyfyngu gan y Ddeddf uchod.

Gall y pwerau a ddisgrifir uchod gael eu harfer i'r fath fodd fel bod unrhyw ddarpariaeth o dan unrhyw Orchymyn Barhaol bresennol, neu ddarpariaethau'r Gorchymyn Dros Dro hwn, gael eu dechrau, eu hatal, eu hamrywio neu eu hadfer yn ystod ei gyfnod.

Heblaw fel y darperir gan y Gorchymyn hwn:

Ni chaniateir i unrhyw berson fynd ar droed neu beri neu ganiatáu i unrhyw gerbyd neu feic i fynd, stopio neu aros ar unrhyw adeg, yn y lleoliad a enwir o fewn yr Atodlen isod.

ATOLDEN

Lleoliad	Pob ffordd rhwng y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â'r A4226/B4265 a'r cyffyrdd sy'n cysylltu dwy ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â Port Road.
Rheswm	Bwriad y gwaharddiadau a'r cyfyngiadau yma yw i osgoi perygl i unigolion neu draffig arall sy'n defnyddio'r ffyrdd; gan osgoi, leihau, neu leihau'r tebygoliaeth o'r perygl a gysylltir â therfysgaeth neu o fwriad yn gysylltiedig â pherygl neu ddifrod sy'n gysylltiedig â therfysgaeth (yn ôl y diffiniad yn Adran 1 o Ddeddf Derfysgaeth 2000).
Hyd	O 18.01 ar 30 Gorffennaf 2013 am fwyafswm cyfnod o 18 mis.
Llwybr Amgen	Bydd gwyriadau ar gyfer traffig i gyfeiriad y de ddwyrain yn dechrau ar y gylchfan ger y Ganolfan Cynnal a Chadw Awyrennau, yna mewn cyfeiriad de ddwyreiniol ar hyd yr A4226 hyd at y gylchfan ar y gyffordd gyda Port Road ac yna mewn cyfeiriad de orllewinol ar hyd Port Road, i'r Maes Awyr, ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

Dyddiedig y 4 dydd o Gorffennaf 2013

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

What a way to end a busy term!

THE 3rd Cowbridge Brownies ended a busy term picking strawberries, eating ice cream and playing at Hendrewennol!

"This term the girls have completed their hobbies and artist badges, they particularly enjoyed a photography challenge and showed some real talent.

"We look forward to welcoming our new Brownies in September, but will miss the girls who are leaving us to join the Guides after the holidays," said spokeswoman Sarah Fenner.

Monday Club's mystery tour

***Thank you for the sunshine*...that's what members of the Cowbridge (Gateway) Monday Club, their parents, carers and helpers had to say when they returned to Cowbridge from their annual summer mystery coach trip on Tuesday, June 25.**

The venue for the outing was the Wildfowl & Wetlands Centre at Slimbridge (set against a spectacular Severn Estuary backdrop).

We arrived in time for coffee before we were taken on a guided walk by two volunteers, stopping to let those who wanted to hand feed the friendly nenes.

Numbers are now increasing, thanks to a successful breeding programme set up by the late Sir Peter Scott, who realised they were an endangered species. He opened up the original Wetlands Centre in 1948.

After watching the antics of the young ducks, geese and swans and their parents – of which there were plenty– and checking out the various pink flamingoes (they have six different varieties at Slimbridge) we had worked up an appetite for our cooked lunch, which was provided in a pleasant room overlooking a lake.

Very enjoyable, it was – Jillian Harries, our chairperson, giving a vote of thanks to the waitress and waiter who looked after us.

In the afternoon, we were free to do our own think – look at the amphibians in Toad Hall, see the otters feeding and watch a film about a trip made by Wetland staff to recover Spoonbill Sandpiper eggs (now highly endangered) from Russia.

We were also able to look around the shop or just enjoy the sunshine in the 88 acres or so which make up the centre. Everyone agreed it had been an excellent day. Our thanks go to Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Lions, the Rotary Club of Cowbridge, the Cowbridge & Llanblethian Town Council and the Emerald Lodge (No 5907) for funding our activities, and making it possible for our members with learning disabilities to enjoy a day out (free of charge).

Anyone with a learning disability, over 16 years of age, is welcome to join our happy group on the second Monday of the month, meeting at Ramoth Church Hall (Broadshoard entrance) Cowbridge at 7.30pm.

For further information, please contact president, Betty Alden on 01446 773373, or secretary Ann Roach on 01446 781309.

Daniel helps out African charity

by TIM CHAPMAN

A man from Zimbabwe has been publicising the River Africa charity with a number of collection days in south Wales – and last Friday, June 28, he was in Holton Road, Barry.

Daniel Nadzo (41) a web designer who now lives in south Wales, wants people to know how the cause is helping African women to survive childbirth and those suffering from HIV.

Daniel said: "The aim is to help to reduce the amount of women who are dying in childbirth, and instances of mothers passing on HIV to babies.

"Some mothers do not live long enough to raise their children."

Although he is thousands of miles from Zimbabwe, Daniel has not forgotten his homeland and says he is inspired by the example set by his mother Rosemary, who died in 2003

He explained: "She was a schoolteacher and did a lot for the community."

Daniel plans to run the Cardiff Half Marathon on October 6 to raise money for the cause. He also hopes to arrange for a walk to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro which would include women from both Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom who are living with HIV, so they can learn from each other's experiences.

Daniel said: "From its inception River Africa has been run by unpaid Welsh volunteers, and will continue to be run by volunteers for its lifetime.

"We aim to reduce the incidence of maternal mortality in hard-to-reach rural communities in Zimbabwe through the implementation of antenatal and postpartum care.

Daniel Nadzo fundraising on Holton Road, Barry, for the River Africa charity.

"The care will be dispensed through purpose-built mother and baby hospitals which are supported by the use of a fully integrated maternal mobile clinic.

"I also plan to approach local vehicle manufacturers or dealers, hoping they will donate two 4x4 vehicles that River Africa can use to implement its mobile clinic and chicken project in Zimbabwe."

Daniel is optimistic about the future of Zimbabwe, saying it must take a central path, not affected by its colonial past, and not too liberal either.

"We can't use colonial excuses, it is time for Zimbabwe to move on," he said.

For more information on River Africa, go to www.riverafrica.org; to support Daniel's individual Mount Kilimanjo climb, go to: www.justgiving.com/Daniel-Nadzo.

Local teacher new head of Cardiff school

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive history teacher, Paul Norton, is the new Principal of Kings Monkton School, Cardiff, where he takes over from acting Principal, Julia Horton.

Paul Norton, the new Principal of Kings Monkton School.

He began his teaching career at Cowbridge in 1997, where he taught sociology at A-Level over the past academic year. He said: "It has been great to work with pupils you can really challenge and support to achieve their very best and instill in them the passion I have for learning and my subject."

As well as being acting Principal and deputy heads at two Welsh state schools, he has been programme director for a summer school of international students at Oxford University.

On his new role, he said: "It is an honour and privilege to assume the leadership of such a prestigious school in Cardiff. My father was a pupil here so I've got a personal connection with the school. It is a very exciting opportunity for me and I look forward to working with my new colleagues and pupils to grow the school in terms of success and pupil numbers."

Heathfield Independent Schools, a local company took over its running in April. Spokesman Andrew McCarthy of Heathfield Independent Schools, said: "The interview and pupil panel were unanimous in their decision to appoint Paul.

"It was felt that his leadership and management strengths will really help the school, our staff and our pupils as we embark on this new chapter."

Pupils record their favourite fairytale

ABOVE and RIGHT: The pupils record their fairytale, with help from the WMC recording studio.

PUPILS in year-3 at St David's Church in Wales Primary, Colwinston, recently had a 'fab time' recording with Dan and Alex from the Wales Millennium Centre recording studio.

The children were lucky enough to win a competition organised by the WMC, whereby they had to design villains and heroes.

Their winning entries, described as "amazing" by the team of judges, resulted in the opportunity to record their own version of the well-known fairytale, *The Elves and the Shoemaker*.

The children had a thoroughly amazing time bringing the story to life, adding the sound effects, contributing towards the final play. The resulting play can be heard on the school's website.

Aaron, who plays the old man, said: "I've never done a play like this before. It was great to be a part of it and see how it all fits together. We had lots of fun doing it."

JANIS ELLIS, year-3 teacher

Garlic and crisps... *and then some strawberries and cream!*

WIMBLEDON fortnight fell at the right time for the June meeting of the Cowbridge Friendship Club, as traditionally it's the time for strawberries and cream – and that's what members were looking forward to!

First, they were split into two teams and it was a case of which team had the best touch, smell and taste.

Both teams did extremely well when they had to name the various items by touch, then it came to smell – which ranged from garlic, lavender, mint and chives. One team certainly excelled with the sense of smell and when it came to taste various flavours of crisps had to be sampled.

Team B were the outright winners, whereas Team A, although they had all the right flavours, unfortunately they were all in the wrong order!

Thankfully, not too many crisps were sampled, which left room for the afternoon tea and (of course) the strawberries and cream – which were enjoyed by all.

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month when we have a variety of activities so if you or someone you know would like to join, please ring 01656 668446 to find out more.

PAT SMITH

PTA hold school's summer market

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School's PTA is holding its summer market this Saturday, July 6, from 10.30am to 3.30pm at Aberthin Road.

A spokeswoman said: "There will be lots of local craft people with tempting items and treats for family and friends."

Light refreshments will be available on the day.

If anyone would like to book a stall, they should contact the following email: mandypterry@me.com or call 07979 148 939.

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Cowbridge History Society's first AGM

MANY readers may not be aware that the 'new' Cowbridge History Society came into existence in April 2013 – formed from the merger of Cowbridge Local History Society (CDLHS) and Cowbridge Record Society (CRS).

It has adopted a new constitution, but will combine the activities of the previous societies, including monthly talks on historical topics (mostly about south Wales), visits to historical sites specially in celebration of the town's Charter Day, research into topics of local interest and publication of the results from time to time.

In addition, there will be a regular newsletter to keep members up-to-date with the society's affairs. The Local History Study Room in Old Hall will continue to be the responsibility of the society.

To set it on the road to success, there will be a first annual general meeting on Wednesday, July 10 at 7.30pm in the Maendy Room (formerly the church hall) at the Cowbridge United Free Church, accessed from the 21 Westgate entrance.

As part of this, the accounts of the 'old' CRS will have to be approved. All current members are invited to attend.

They may nominate members for any of the society's offices – chair, secretary, treasurer, publications officer and programme secretary – and up to five other members of a management committee whose task will be the day-to-day running of the society.

All, of course, will be unpaid volunteers. If there is more than one candidate for any of the posts, an election will be held. Anyone wishing to nominate officers or committee members, or to raise other business for discussion at the AGM, should give 10 days' notice in writing to the acting secretary, Mr Don Gerrard, 34 The Verlands, Cowbridge, CF71 7BY.

The new society is a recognised charity under the auspices of the Charity Commissioners and may need some new trustees.

This AGM will be followed by an illustrated talk by Robert Cope on the history of Christmas Cottages in Church Street, Cowbridge. There will be a social event, including refreshments, after this to inaugurate the new society.

The first lecture of the society's autumn programme on Friday, October 4 will be given by Prof Chris Williams, of Swansea University, who will talk on The Richard Burton Diaries that he has recently edited.

If you are interested in history, especially local history, why not join us?

DICK TONKIN

GARDEN PARTY

By invitation of Rev Martyn and Julie Davies, the Rectory Garden in Peterston-super-Ely will be the scene of fun and excitement this Saturday, July 6, when the village holds its coronation-theme garden party.

Go along to pit your wits at various competitions. Cream teas and Pimms will be there to refresh guests!

Local pupils show their music talent in Youth Festival

EWENNY Arts Festival gave young people from the Vale and Bridgend county boroughs the chance to perform to an appreciative audience.

Pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive and St Brides Church in Wales Primary, delivered a remarkable evening's entertainment.

The senior pupils gave a well-crafted programme bursting with solo items, both instrumental and voice and the juniors also excelled.

The following night, Archdeacon John Lewis, Church in Wales Primary and Llangewydd Junior alternated their performances showcasing their very distinctive styles – Llangewydd, dramatic and exuding enthusiasm; Archdeacon, harmonious and carefully choreographed.

There was a change of direction when students from Heronsbridge School, Key Stage 4 pupils, opened the evening with a well-known drama, but with a twist – a version of The Three Little Pigs.

Tremendous performances were given by Justin Beynon as Narrator; cast members – Anita Bond as Mother Pig, Lowell Evans as the Wolf, and Morgan Brunt, Daniel Edmunds and Christopher Mc Fetirch as the three little pigs, all ably supported by a chorus comprised of Ben Edmunds, Jade Cooper, Kieron Lock and Ethan David.

The second half was equally captivating with a number of items by Heronsbridge School Choir and solos by the talented Daniel Williams.

Next day was the turn of St David's Church in Wales Primary School Choir in combination with 'Harmonious Harps', a harp ensemble.

This was a beautifully conceived programme with the primary choir counter-balanced by a challenging mix of harp solos and ensembles, interspersed with flute and piano pieces.

The festival concluded with Bridgend County Youth Music, in the guise of Bridgend Junior Big Band, Bridgend Saxophone Quartet and the Junior Big Band.

All toe-tapping performances were brilliant but the Sax Quartet deserves to be singled out for their endurance as well as talent: Jesse Goss, soprano; Katie Wynn, alto; Tom Rees, tenor; and Jordan Parker, baritone.

VIOLINIST IN RECITAL

MUSIC lovers are in for a treat on July 11, when violinist Sara Trickey presents a recital at Ewenny Priory Church, as part of the Ewenny Arts Festival.

Accompanied by pianist Daniel Tong, with whom she has recently been recording, Sara will be playing Beethoven's *Spring Sonata* and music by Arvo Part, Schubert, Faure and others.

A winner of numerous awards, she performs across the UK and internationally and appears on a number of recordings.

Sara has strong family links with the Vale, performing earlier this year at the Barry Arts Festival.

The performance starts at 7.30pm. Tickets available from Ewenny Pottery 01656 653020, Helen 01656 667047, Mari 01656 664105, or on the door.

Did you know? You can follow The GEM on Twitter. Find us @gem_news

WESTMINSTER CUTS BRING MORE BUDGET GLOOM FOR WALES

THE Welsh economy has suffered greatly following the global recession; sluggish growth has been compounded by significant cuts to our capital budget by the UK Government, with no better news for Wales in the Spending Review announcements last week, apart from the welcome prospects of an announcement soon, on the M4 and the Silk Commission.

That was the message I gave to a packed seminar this week,which was focusing on our infrastructure needs in Wales.

But I went on to say that we are determined, as a Welsh Government, to boost our investment with new ways of financing capital projects, such as schools and housing, as well as our roads and transport infrastructure.

To clarify what the Chancellor's statement last week means for Wales, he announced that there would be a 2 per cent cut between 2014 and 2016 and overall, our budget in 2015-16 will be £280m lower in real terms than in 2014-15.

These cuts come on top of those we have already had to manage since 2010.

So, by 2015-16, our Welsh Government budget will be lower by £1.680m in real terms than it was in 2010-11.

I have called – and will continue to call – on the UK Government to increase capital budgets to boost infrastructure investment to stimulate the economy.

However, our capital funding allocation from the UK Government is now set at £1.46bn for this spending round, of which £179m has been earmarked for financial transactions – i.e. to be repaid.

We will have £4bn less capital available over the next 10 years than we had in the last decade. As I said at the seminar, spending money wisely on our infrastructure, is one of three main ways government can contribute to growth and jobs.

Assembly Notes

by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

The World Economic Forum 2012 describes it as 'critical to economic progress'.

The Civil Engineering Contractors Association has noted that for every 1,000 jobs created in infrastructure construction, employment as a whole rises by just over 3,000 jobs.

Last year, I launched our Wales Infrastructure Plan for Growth and Jobs, and I have already reported on the first year of progress in investing around £1.3bn additional investment in our top priorities – transport, flood protection, telecommunications, energy ,Enterprise Zones, housing, schools and health.

In the short term, we estimate that this investment will create around 8,000 jobs during construction phases – in the longer term they will boost growth and improve our public services.

Our investment includes those new ways of financing that are helping us build more social housing, working with local authorities like the Vale Council to improve roads and build new schools. But we need to have 'borrowing powers' ourselves as a Welsh Government and we await an announcement from the UK Government that these will be approved in response to the cross-party Silk Commission, which reported last year.

I recently reported on the importance of our European Structural Investment Funds to help boost our economy and enhance the skills and employment opportunities of our young people through apprenticeships and our successful Jobs Growth Wales programme for 16-25 year olds.

Last week, negotiations on the EU Budget were concluded, leading to a welcome announcement of just over £2bn being made available for Wales, with a favourable regional distribution between west Wales and the Valleys, and east Wales – where the Vale is located.

I was able to congratulate Derek Vaughan MEP for the key role he has played in securing this result, working with the Welsh Government to make the case for Wales.

Tackling Poverty through sustainable employment will play a key part in the delivery of these funds.

Dinas Powys cannabis grower destroys shed

THE garden shed where a jobless Dinas Powys man repeatedly grew cannabis plants is no more, *writes AJ SICLUNA*.

Simon Redclift, 53, Cardiff Crown Court heard, has demolished the structure, burnt much of it, and removed all the debris.

His counsel, Hywel Hughes, said: "He has broken the link between his misuse of drugs and that shed, which occupied his whole lifestyle."

Redclift, of St Ivor Place, had at an earlier hearing admitted producing cannabis and possessing cannabis with intent.

The court was told he had previous convictions for using the shed to grow cannabis.

Judge David Wynn Morgan had adjourned sentence for a possible order to be made for the structure to be demolished.

Prosecutor Tony Trigg said the cannabis plants had a possible yield worth up to £20,000.

He was sentenced to 32 weeks imprisonment, suspended for two years, and made subject to a six-month electronically tagged 8pm to 8am curfew.

The Judge said that a report indicated that the shed had been a significant space for Redclift to grow the drug without disturbing his family.

But now, he said, by demolishing the shed he had taken the matter into his own hands and indicated a change of attitude.

He said the shed was nothing more than a cannabis factory and Redclift had to be punished for his fourth conviction for growing the drug.

He also said Redclift had refused to co-operate with the probation service and therefore a community order would have been a waste of time.

Earlier, Mr Hughes said: "Redclift had been alive to the thinking of the court, and certain options were discussed and the shed had been demolished."

A solicitor had visited the site, which was now completely clear.

Mr Hughes added that a compelling aspect of the case was that Redclift had abandoned the misuse of cannabis, and thus the whole spectrum regarding sentencing options had changed.

"He has deprived himself of the property and in a way has sentenced himself," said Mr Hughes.

Friendship club enjoys food fun!

WIMBLEDON fortnight fell at the right time for the June meeting of the Cowbridge Friendship Club – as traditionally it's the time for strawberries and cream – and that's what members were looking forward to.

First, members were split into two teams and it was a case of which team had the best touch, smell and taste.

Both teams did extremely well when they had to name the various items by touch, then it came to smell – which ranged from garlic, lavender, mint and chives. One team certainly excelled with the sense of smell and when it came to taste various flavours of crisps had to be sampled.

Team B were the outright winners, whereas Team A, although they had all the right flavours, unfortunately they were all in the wrong order!

Thankfully, not too many crisps were sampled, which left room for the afternoon tea and (of course) the strawberries and cream – which were enjoyed by all.

Meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month when we have a variety of activities so if you or someone you know would like to join, please ring 01656 668446 to find out more.

PAT SMITH

Cooper and Bob awaiting instructions...

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Vale Brass Band in Normandy festival

FOR the second successive year, the Vale of Glamorgan Brass Band was asked to represent the Vale at 'Estivoiles', the festival of music held at Fecamp in Normandy.

This involved marching through the very busy market and giving two concerts. The first was attended by the Mayor of the Vale (Coun Margaret Wilkinson).

A friendship was also formed with a small, humorous and very loud German band from Rheinfelden, called D'maximale, who joined the Vale Band for part of the second concert. Both the Vale and Rheinfelden are twinned with Fecamp.

The musical director, Mr Dave Short, was unable to accompany the band this year, so it was ably conducted by Mr Jeremy Meddous-Taylor.

PACT meetings

BARUC PACT, July 8 at the West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, at 7pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT, July 8 at The Fire Station, Cowbridge, at 7pm.

DINAS POWYS PACT, July 8 at St Mary's Church Hall, Edith Road, Dinas Powys, at 7pm.

SULLY PACT, July 11 at Jubilee Hall, Smithies Avenue, Sully, at 8.15pm.

PACT COFFEE AND CHAT, July 16 at The Red Lion, Bonvilston, at 11.30am.

ST AUGUSTINES PACT public meeting, July 17 at The Windsor Public House at 7pm.

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, July 17 at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre at 7pm.

STANWELL PACT, July 19 at The Pod, St Lukes Avenue, at 6pm.

CADOC PACT, July 24 at Palmerston Community and Learning Centre, at 6pm.

COURT PACT, Ilminster Scout Hall, Ilminster Street, Barry, on July 25 at 6pm.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Pontneath areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118 and he'll be happy to help!

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Ein cyfarfod ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus nesaf:

Dydd Llun, **8 Gorffennaf**

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Heol Bryn, Tondu.
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For a full list of meetings:- http://www.wales.nhs.uk/SWP/public-events

In hard times, the Vale needs a better deal...

Vale MP **Alun Cairns** reports to GEM readers

LAST week, the Chancellor announced his Spending Review for 2015/16, which needed to address some difficult issues.

When this Government came into power, it had to address one of the biggest economic crises since the Second World War.

While it is never straightforward, Britain is moving out of intensive care – from rescue to recovery.

It shows how the Government will continue to cut the deficit. It prioritises investment in infrastructure to equip Britain to compete in the global race, and it ensures fairness for people who work hard and want to get on by further reforming welfare and capping welfare spending.

Although the deficit has been cut by a third since the election, more needs to be done. In spite of the cuts that have taken place over that time, we are still borrowing £8.8 billion a year (down from the forecast £12.2billion).

Cuts to Wales are to be two per cent over three years and the Welsh Government block grant for 2015-16 will remain the same as for 2014-2015, at £13.6 billion.

In reality, the Welsh funding levels in comparison with England will increase slightly over the next three years.

At long last, I was delighted that a commitment has been given to build a new motorway south of Newport. This is long overdue and is the gateway to business across south Wales.

It was cancelled twice over the last 15 years. I have been reassured that this time, it will be built.

S4C was suspected as a possible casualty in the spending review but I was delighted that its budget was protected. In fact, it is the only part of the culture budget that has not been cut.

This was a win for the Welsh Conservative MPs who worked hard as a team to push for absolute continued commitment to the Welsh TV channel by the UK Government.

At a local level, however, we should not accept that it is the cuts by central government that are causing a squeeze on services.

Yes, there are ways for delivering the same or even better services in a more efficient way.

But, if the Vale received its fair share of the cake, we would receive at least an extra £25.6 million a year – if we were to receive the same level of funding as Cardiff.

The Vale Council receives £202 less per person than is granted to Cardiff and £226 less per person than is given to Bridgend.

When lack of funding is used as a reason to cut back services locally, the reality is very different. The Vale does not get its fair share from the Welsh Government.

I think that we deserve the same level of funding as Cardiff. We are being short changed.

After all, it costs the same to build a school here in the Vale as it does in any other community in Wales. The cost of a teacher or resurfacing a road is much the same in each part of Wales.

The Vale Council doesn't need to see any cutbacks to its services. All we need is our fair share of the cake.

CABARET, CAVATINA, AND STRAWBERRIES!

THE large audience attending the Cavatina Singers' concert at All Saints' Church, Victoria Square, Penarth enjoyed a triple treat on Saturday afternoon.

Invited guest was 'All That Malarkey' – an extremely versatile cabaret ensemble of classically trained singers from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama – and they didn't disappoint!

Comprising four talented singers – Amy, Frances, Colin and Eleias, and their director David George Harrington at the piano, the audience were wowed by some brilliantly arranged well known, popular and less well known pieces.

The second treat was Cavatina Singers performing short works, conducted by their director Victoria Pilley and accompanied on the piano by Matthew Green.

Pieces by Edward Elgar, John Rutter, Rodgers and Hart and others ranged from 'Gaelic Blessing', 'I will Sing with the Spirit', 'Blue Moon', 'Torrents in Summer' to 'I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside'! All of which were well received by the audience.

The third treat was a strawberry and cream tea following the concert – an innovation for a Cavatina Singers' concert – but suiting the fine and entertaining summer afternoon which we were privileged to enjoy. If the amount of strawberries, scones and cream consumed was anything to go by, it was an undoubted success!

Cavatina Singers will now enjoy a well-earned summer recess and will reconvene in September. To find out more about the choir, visit the website www.cavatinasingers.org.uk or contact the Secretary on 029 2051 2054. **NL**

Llandow tea gives charity £1,200 boost

LOVELY weather and delicious local strawberries were a perfect combination at a strawberry tea held in Llandow village hall on Saturday, June 8.

The event was held in aid of Breast Cancer Care and raised just over £1,200.

The hall and grounds were totally transformed and beautifully decked out in a haze of pink by local resident Clive Cook.

It provided an ideal setting to enjoy a relaxing afternoon tea.

Hereford-based soft fruit firm, S&A Produce (UK) Ltd, who recently took over Springfield nursery in Llandow supplied the strawberries for the tea.

The local MP Alun Cairns and ITV news presenter Jonathan Hill opened the event.

Colin and Spice, two local retired donkeys, also made guest appearances and revelled in the attention they received during the afternoon.

Sally Harrop said: "I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped and supported this very successful event."

Village festival

On Saturday (July 6), the annual Llanmaes Festival takes place on the village green between 12 noon and 5pm, in conjunction with the Blacksmith's Arms beer and cider festival.

There will be traditional games, craft stalls, and a dog show; free admission.

Choir's concert

WITH Independence Day falling on July 4, St Donats Arts Centre's resident choir celebrates this Saturday (July 6) with a star-spangled programme of music from and about America starting at 7.30pm.

Biodiversity champion

THE Vale Council's cabinet has appointed Barry councillor and environmental campaigner, Rob Curtis, as its first 'biodiversity champion'.

He said he will have a key role in ensuring that biodiversity is considered in all council functions and in its decision making processes.

'The Vale is missing out on millions of pounds'

'I'M REALLY ALARMED' – SAYS MP

Report by TIM CHAPMAN

THE Vale is one of the poorest funded council areas by the Welsh Government, the local MP has said.

Alun Cairns claims it is missing out to the tune of millions of pounds a year compared to neighbouring councils such as Bridgend and Cardiff.

"I've been really alarmed," he told The GEM.

But the Welsh Government countered Mr Cairns' assertion, arguing that other areas had greater needs and pointing out assessments were made before allocating funds.

Nearly three quarters of all 'council spend' is received directly from the Welsh Government.

Mr Cairns said he requested research data from the House of Commons library, asking it to establish the total money that the Welsh Government distributes to all councils in terms of a 'per person' spend.

He said: "The Vale receives £202 less per person than is granted to Cardiff and £226 less per person than is given to Bridgend.

"If these figures were multiplied up to a total, according to our population, the council could have an additional £25.6m to spend year in year out if the Vale received the same level of funding as Cardiff.

"If the Vale was funded to the same level as Bridgend, the Vale would receive an additional £28.6m each year.

"I've been really alarmed and disappointed that the figures for 2012-2013 funding shows that year on year, the Vale has lost out once again. The difference is stark.

"When lack of funding is used as a reason to cut back services, the reality is very different.

He insisted: "We don't get our fair share. I am not asking for the same level of funding as some of the most deprived parts of Wales but I think it is completely unfair when Cardiff receives £202 more per person.

"The least we deserve is the same level of funding as Cardiff. We are being short changed."

Mr Cairns said that what particularly concerned him was that the disparity in funding between the Vale and other areas was growing.

"The shortfall is getting wider. Last year, Cardiff received £126 extra per person. This year, the gap has grown to £202. This is simply wrong.

"After all, it costs the same to pay to build a school here in the Vale as it does in any other community in Wales.

"The cost of a teacher or resurfacing a road is much the same in each part of Wales.

"There is a need for further school investment locally and a secondary school would cost up to £20m.

"If we were funded the same as Bridgend, the Vale could build a new school every year."

Mr Cairns said it was time the Welsh Government treated the Vale fairly.

"I wrote last year to the Assembly's Finance Minister asking her to review local government funding, and I call on others to voice their concerns.

"These differences have developed over years and enough is enough.

"I urge people to stand up and complain to the Welsh Government and their finance chiefs. This isn't good enough.

"The Vale Council doesn't need to see any cutbacks to its services. All we need is our fair share of the cake."

ASSEMBLY RESPONSE

A Welsh Government spokeswoman pointed out that other Welsh areas had greater needs.

"There is a long-established principle that central government funding is distributed to local government on the basis of relative need to spend.

"Welsh Government funding for local authorities is determined using a formula which takes into account the needs of a local authority, according to the demographic, physical and social characteristics of each area, such as population, pupil numbers, measures of deprivation and rurality."

The spokeswoman added: "The formula is reviewed and updated every year in detailed consultation with local government."

Barry RAF man's novel takes flight

A RETIRED RAF Group Captain from Barry has written his first novel.

Ron Powell explained: "My novel, *Wings Over Summer,* takes place at RAF Biggin Hill over 14 days at the height of the Battle of Britain.

"The two main characters are 22-year old, Jack, a brave and experienced pilot from Barry, and Alex, a perpetually scared 19-year old fresh out of training."

During his 32 years in the RAF, Ron says he taught hundreds of young men and women to fly, including some at St Athan, where he commanded the University of Wales Air Squadron.

Many have gone on to great things, but he's often wondered how they, and he, would have coped in the summer of 1940.

"Could I, like Jack and Alex, have carried on flying every day, witnessing the death and disfigurement of friends and enemies, and wrestling with the knowledge that the same could happen to me at any moment. Thankfully, I never had to find out."

He continued: "During my RAF career, I was lucky enough to meet several Battle of Britain veterans, and I interviewed one as part of my research for *Wings Over Summer*. With the 75th anniversary of the Battle approaching, I hope more than anything that my book will stand as a fitting tribute to their bravery."

Wings Over Summer is available as an e-book or paperback from Amazon, and the first chapter can be read on Ron's website: http://www.ronpowell.co.uk..

Police drugs raid

A police raid on four addresses in Barry resulted in three arrests and a quantity of drugs being recovered.

They said that the aim of Operation Forfar was to target and disrupt the supply of mephedrone and that a 40-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply class A and B drugs after a quantity of drugs and cash were seized at a house in Barry.

A 38-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of possessing a class B drug and both men are currently on police bail, pending further enquiries.

A 40-year-old man was charged with possession of a class B drug and has been bailed to appear before Cardiff Magistrates on July 17.

Anyone with information should contact police on 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Festival names its first sponsor

HSBC has been confirmed as the first Cowbridge Food and Drink sponsor for the 2013 festival on October 26-27.

Polly Wilson, the festival's event manager, said: "HSBC has been instrumental in the smooth running of the festival since it started in 2004 with support on the ticket booths.

"However, this year they have increased their involvement as sponsor of the new ticketing system at the festival.

"Over the years, the organisers have received feedback that visitors want more for their entry fee, and are encouraging Cowbridge town traders to offer 'extras' to those who have paid to get into the festival – discounts, free entry, or a drink perhaps.

"If any retailer has any ideas for promoting their business in this way over the weekend, please contact Tracy at tracy@cowbridgefoodanddrink.org who can start tweeting and promoting your activity.

"HSBC's sponsorship has enabled the festival to move to a clearly visible wristband entry system, rather than the usual hand stamp making it clear to traders who to offer their benefits to."

Day tickets are £5 each (under 12s free entry) and the weekend pass makes a welcome return at £8.

The chair of the festival committee, John Davies, said: "HSBC has been such a great help for years and this development means that we can really encourage the town traders to get involved and draw in our visitors to see what the town offers year round.

"Funding of festivals is getting more and more difficult to secure and we welcome any interest in corporate sponsorship to secure the future of the festival."

Award-winning Tiffin Rasoi's healthy future

A business in Holton Road, Barry, Tiffin Rasoi, has landed its second award in the space of just a few months.

Late last year, the owner,, Mr Motiur Rahman, was recognised as a finalist in the British Curry Awards for 'Best Delivery Takeaway' – that has now been followed up by winning 'Takeaway of the Year' in the South Wales Food and Drink Awards 2013'.

Mr Rahman said: "The Welsh award was very welcome, because we were nominated by customers for the food, the menu and service, and then checked out by the judges."

He opened up Tiffin Rasoi four and a half years ago and says his success is down to responding to what the customers want.

He explained: "Our latest venture is introducing a fresh and healthy range of Indian meals. We're using very low fat and fat-free dairy products, natural ingredients, along with high-quality rices and spices."

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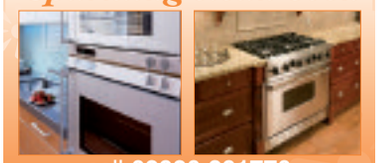
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Bearback Riders saddle up for a new cycle challenge in America!

FOLLOWING the success of the Velindre California Bike Rides last September, a brand new bike adventure will be officially launched today on American Independence Day (the Fourth of July) at the Mochyn Du in Cardiff.

After previously conquering the west coast of America by cycling from Yosemite to San Francisco, Vale-based Bearback Riders are saddling up the East Coast Bike Challenge with a 515km ride in five days from Boston to New York in September 2014.

The ride will begin in the capital of New England and one of America's oldest cities – Boston – and then travel through colonial villages, rolling hills and seaside towns along the Atlantic coast. After five days of gruelling cycling, the ride will finish by crossing the iconic Brooklyn Bridge in New York.

Julian Hitchcock of the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, said: "We had an amazing time in California last September, a really tough ride made worthwhile because the Bearback Riders, consisting of Geoff and Isabel Graham, Paul and Caroline Hole, Marianne and Louise England and Esther, Freddie and Lydia Hitchcock and me, managed to raise nearly £50,000 for Velindre.

ABOVE: The Bearback riders now aim to conquer east coast USA.

"This new route looks equally, if not more of a challenge, so the Bearback Riders will ride again!"

Andrew Morris, head of fundraising at Velindre, said: "Interest in the East Coast Bike Challenge has been incredible – we can take 50 cyclists on each ride and the first one has filled already! We are now signing up cyclists for the ride from September 16-23, and if anyone would like to find out more, they can join us at the launch next Thursday, just call Velindre on 02920 316211 to register."

Former Welsh rugby star, Mike Hall, who has completed the Captains' Climb of Kilimanjaro and the California Bike Ride, said: "Last year's ride was an amazing experience and I'm really looking forward to meeting new riders at the launch next Thursday.

"The itinerary for the East Coast Bike Ride looks like another serious challenge and just like last year, we will be hosting a specially themed Gala Ball, which completely sold out at the Cardiff City Stadium – it was a great night and raised an enormous sum."

The first ride will be led by Welsh rugby legend, Jonathan Davies, who has again decided to don his cycling shorts.. He said: "The California Bike Ride was supposed to be a one off. I was celebrating a special birthday and wanted to use the occasion to raise funds for Velindre, where I'm president. I led the bike ride, along with and Martyn Williams and Mike Hall, and we ended up with over 50 riders.

"The whole event was an absolutely fantastic experience, very tough cycling but with great company and most importantly of all we raised an enormous sum for Velindre. So when I saw this new itinerary for the Boston New York Ride, it looked so good that I thought – why not!"

The East Coast Bike Challenge is a 515km ride from Boston to New York on September 8-15 and 16-23, 2014. The entry fee for the Ride is £200, and participants will be required to raise a minimum of £5,000 in sponsorship.

For further details, contact: info@velindrefundraising.com, or ring 029 2031 6211, www.velindrefundraising.com.

Charity concert will be in memory of Ray Murray

AN evening of choral singing in Cowbridge tomorrow (Friday, July 5) will be held in memory of a popular local man – Ray Murray.

Prostate Cymru's inaugural choral night will be an evening of high quality music and song – dedicated to Ray, who was the charity's founder and chairman.

The Bridgend Male Choir will join Pendoylan School Choir in Cowbridge Leisure Centre to perform a range of songs, from classic Welsh hymns to music from the shows.

A spokesman for Prostate Cymru said: "All the money from the concert goes towards funding the Green Light Laser equipment at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, and to fund robotic surgery in Wales."

The charity Glaze was formed by Ray and Lyn Murray, and Andy Thomas, its trustees, 10 years ago and has raised more than half a million pounds.

This was to bring Green Light Laser surgery to Wales, as the technique made a huge difference to men needing surgery to reduce the size of an enlarged prostate.

Glaze has now been incorporated into Prostate Cymru and a small team of dedicated ambassadors raise money in various ways.

Prostate Cymru is also campaigning to bring robotic surgery to Wales – a technique that makes a difference to operations for prostate cancer.

At the moment, men in Wales who need such surgery have to have it in England, and pay £13,000! Men in England can get it free on the NHS.

The spokesman said: "Sadly, Prostate Cymru's chairman Ray Murray passed away last month. The charity thought it appropriate to mark his hard work and dedication over 10 years, by renaming the concert the 'Ray Murray Inaugural Concert'.

"Ray worked tirelessly for the charity over the past decade, starting it in the front room of his house and making it a body with national recognition."

The show at Cowbridge Leisure Centre aims to raise cash for the charity but is also a 'Bon Voyage' for 13 intrepid explorers who are heading to South America to conquer its highest summits.

Led by charity trustee, Andy Thomas and former Welsh internationals Bob Norster and Eddie Butler, they will be climbing five volcanoes in Ecuador – to raise funds for Prostate Cymru.

The hikers who will also climb, Chimborazo, Ecuador's highest mountain – which towers 21,000 feet!

The spokesman added: "Bob and Ed have faced many southern hemisphere challenges on the pitch – but this will see them take southern hemisphere danger to a new level."

Bridgend Male Choir is conducted by Rhiannon Williams-Hale, and the Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Choir is conducted by Debra Jones.

The evening promises to provide a feast of music by amateur singers with a professional touch. Tickets are available at HSBC and Xantippe, Cowbridge, and The News Shop and Porters Estate Agents, Bridgend, priced £7 and £4.50 for seniors and children under 15.

Donations to Prostate Cymru can be made by visiting the website www.prostatecymru.com

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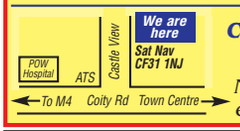

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Out and About with The GEM

Rhws Primary summer fayre

A SUMMER fayre will take place this Friday, July 5, from 3pm-6pm at Rhws Primary School.

There will be a disco, bouncy castles, face painting and tattoos, so plenty to keep the children occupied while you chill out and enjoy a refreshing glass of Pimms or wine. Browse the many stalls and enjoy a tasty burger or hot dog.

Proceeds from the fayre will go towards buying ten mini iPads for the children to use in the classrooms.

Plaid advice

RESIDENTS are invited to attend an advice surgery to discuss any council issues or concerns by Couns Dr Ian Johnson, Steffan Wiliam, Nic and Shirley Hodges, joined by the Barry Plaid Cymru team at the County Library, King Square, Barry, from 11am-12pm on Saturday (July 6). No appointments necessary.

A Plaid councillors' coffee morning will be held on July 6 in Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys from 11am-noon.

Open University

THE Open University is holding an information day at Cowbridge Library on Saturday (July 6) from 10am-2pm.

For more information, contact www.openuniversity.co.uk/atyourlibrary

Fun day

DINAS Powys Infants School is holding a family fun day this Saturday (July 6) from 1pm-3pm in the school.

Street surgery

INDEPENDENT councillors Richard and Robert Bertin are holding a street surgery between 10am-11am on Saturday, July 6 in the Gibbonsdown Rise area of Barry.

For further information, telephone 01446 736227 or email rjbertin@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Cabinet questions

THE Vale Council's cabinet will hold a community question and answer session in Llandough on Monday, July 8 from 7.15pm-8.30pm, in the Llandough and Leckwith War Memorial Institute.

Floral society

'A Musical Interlude' is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Margaret Walker of Cheltenham to members and friends of the Barry Floral Society at a meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 9.

The meeting will take place at the St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry commencing at 2.15pm.

New members are always welcome.

Fibromyalgia Support

THE next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group is on Tuesday, July 9 (11am-1pm).

Call Gaynor for more details on 01446 733315.

Charity fair

THERE will be a summer fair in the Paget Rooms, Penarth, on Saturday, July 13 in aid of Cancer Research UK, at 10.15am; admission 50p, to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Usual stalls – cakes and savouries, white elephant, preserves, raffle and others.

Scout jumble

THE 1st Dinas Powys Scout Group holds a jumble sale at 1.30pm on Saturday, July 13, at the Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys. Admission 50p.

Cadstock in the park

FOLLOWING the success of last year's free festival, Victoria Park, Cadoxton, will be rocking again over the weekend of July 13-14 to Cadstock 2013, when 10 bands will be taking to the stage.

The entertainment starts at 1pm on each day, with 'attic/shed rock innovators' Them Dead Beats launching the festival on Saturday, followed by Green Haze – Barry's tribute to Green Day.

Also taking part are The Hindenburgs, Stonehouse, and special guests Eric Unseen.

Sunday kicks off with Seafall, followed by local band Back To November, Outback, and King Paul and the Zeronoughts (with a guest appearance from a famous Barry bass player).

The festival closes with Barry's favourite sons, The Underdogs.

For further information, email jgreatrex@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Anniversary service

BETHESDA'R Fro with Ebenezer's anniversary service on July 21 at 3pm will be taken by Mr Clive Curtis from Cardiff.

On October 5, Mrs Christine Roberts from Barry will be taking the Harvest Festival service.

'Proud Prams' is back

A CLASS set up to encourage parents in North Cornelly to do more talking and walking with their babies is making a return.

'Proud Prams' sessions are being run for the next two weeks by Bridgend County Borough Council's Flying Start team at Afon y Felin Primary School from July 4 to July 11 between 10am-11.30am.

Flying Start is a Welsh Government-funded initiative which aims to provide support for families in disadvantaged areas to improve children's development, health and wellbeing in preparation for school.

Call Shelly-Ann Scourfield-Jones on 01656 815032 for details.

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D781.

- **£2,000: 107954**.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £1,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 2 6 0 7 8 6 , 559206, 350790, 711220, 780223, 377089, 208484, 318969, 391174, 689531, 835086, 434930, 103234, 628481, 149091, 724103, 379559, 332967, 345572, 568171.
- **£5:** 529531, 312588, 237457, 781114, 376921, 333488, 416551, 318021, 777323, 169196, 296114, 147270, 294143, 755749, 874307, 334498, 429769, 755229, 172190, 878307, 257372, 304618, 170330, 542628, 306567, 797951, 401767, 413947, 766861, 196547, 141376, 705065, 168387, 116023, 581036, 816291, 635936, 601302, 255296, 206916, 580234, 788270, 142554, 380204, 795554, 435681, 550265, 126305, 881501, 717831, 144243, 558380, 392133, 102075, 187834, 500719, 757473, 372202, 504156.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Bridgend County Show
12th, 13th & 14th July
Pencoed College
Cattle, Sheep, Pigs & Goats
Horses & Showjumping,
Dog Show, Lions Pirate Tent
Poultry Sale & Show, Fairground
Licensed Bar, Rabbit Show & Sale
Craft Stalls & Trade Stands
Inter Hunt Scurry, Gymnastics
South Wales Police Dog Display
Carriage Obstacle Racing
Its A Knockout
106.3 Bridge FM 106.3 www.bridge.fm

ADMISSION FREE
Tel 01656 661338 email king-barry@btconnect.com

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All cats have been neutered & microchipped
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Thanking everyone for their continued support

LLANCARFAN VILLAGE SHOW
to be held in
LLANCARFAN COMMUNITY HALL & ST CADOC'S CHURCH
on
SATURDAY 13th JULY 2013
Doors open to the public at 1.45pm
Please phone Sue Taylor **01446 781453** or Ann Ferris **01446 781350** for schedule

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Evil villain animation is fun for all the family

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

BEING a villain always seems to be more fun than being the hero. A casual attitude to justice, grandiose evil schemes and a gigantic lair full of all manner of interesting things – what's not to love about that?

That idea was the basis for 2010's *Despicable Me,* which saw arch-villain Gru's plans to steal the moon scuppered by his newfound love for three girls he adopted as part of his nefarious plan.

Huge box-office meant that a second outing was a certainty, and so *Despicable Me 2* hits cinemas, which sees the newly-reformed Gru (voiced by Steve Carell), now a father to the three girls, hired by the Anti-Villain League to work alongside one of their top agents Lucy (voiced by Kristen Wiig) to track down a serum that, in the wrong hands, could have devastating consequences.

Of course, with three girls to look after, and his infamous minions nipping at his heels, the task is anything but straightforward...

Animated sequels, much like their live-action brethren, are notoriously difficult to get right; most of the time, an increase in spectacle and boundary-pushing sacrifices the good feeling generated from a film's first outing.

It is a condition that doesn't affect *Despicable Me 2*, a film that builds on the goodwill of that first outing and, while hardly breaking new ground in terms of its story, builds on it, creating an easily watchable and highly amusing slice of cinematic entertainment.

The selling point of the franchise has been Gru's minions, a gaggle of small yellow characters speaking what sounds like pidgeon French and showing themselves to be severely shorn in the brains department.

If you find these little guys funny, then you'll be more than comfortable here, the film hanging on their actions when the pacing sags, and their antics hit the funny bone square on.

With their slapstick-style comedy, they follow in the tradition of the aliens from *Toy Story* – cute, engaging and hilarious, something that applies to the other characters as well, even if the story doesn't make the most of the potential that's there.

It teases at ideas either unused or underdone – one of the girls' love of violence, Gru's shunning of his previous life as a villain, the lack of a mother in the girls' lives.

The actual story, a predictable one with an espionage tint, is shorn of any surprise or suspense, but carried by the goodwill of the characters, it just about works, and the younger audience will hardly panic about the straightforward 'A to B' nature of the narrative.

The vocal cast are all on top form; Steve Carell, in particular, once again delivering the comedic goods as Gru, with only Kristen Wiig's vocal stylings not quite working as the agent working alongside Gru, feeling flat and a little forced.

The film looks tremendous, the CGI animation giving the film a beautiful visual look accentuated by directors Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud (who – fact alert! – also voice the minions) with the 3D well worth indulging in, the filmmakers making the most of the extra dimension in some clever ways.

Simplistic story aside, *Despicable Me 2* is a breezy, pleasing film that works for the whole family, retaining the charm that made the first so appealing, it is a wonderful effort.

VERDICT: Hugely amusing and charming, *Despicable Me 2* is a case of a sequel matching its progenitor. While the story is a touch flat and predictable, the comedy and magic of the minions mean that it won't factor too greatly come the end credits (which are worth staying for!). *Recommended.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Despicable Me* (2010), *Kung Fu Panda* (2008).

Dancing display

THE annual garden party and dancing display by Moya Vahey School of Russian Classical Ballet and the Ella Morgan School of Russian Classical Ballet, will be held at the Old Hall Gardens, Cowbridge, on Sunday, July 14 at 3pm, when a collection will be made in aid of cancer research.

Hospice fete is back!

SATURDAY, August 3, is a red letter day for the annual garden party and fete at Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth.

There will be entertainment from the New Orleans Parade Band, singing from local children's theatre group, Big Talent, as well as the usual face painting, children's games, a tasty barbecue courtesy of hospice chef Graham White and his team, a raffle with the chance to win some great prizes, and the stalls packed with bargains.

The gate will be opened at 12.30pm and admission is £1 for adults, who will be entered into a lucky programme draw with the chance of winning a mystery prize; children are admitted free.

Deborah Hooper, hospice fundraising assistant said: "Last year, we were sad to cancel the garden party as the hospice was closed during the summer while it underwent a big refurbishment.

"We are thrilled to be organising it this year, as it's such a popular event among the community in Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan."

Anyone wishing to have a stall or to donate unwanted good quality gifts can call into the fundraising office at the hospice or telephone 02920 426068 or email *deborah.hopper@mariecurie.org.uk*

£2,000 raised for Diabetes support

ALMOST £2,000 was raised for charity at the Vale Hotel, Hensol, at the annual dinner and dance attended by local members of the Building and Engineering Services Association (B&ES).

The £1,915 raised will be donated to Diabetes UK, the nominated charity of B&ES president Sue Sharp.

Cresta Coaches

Day Trips for 2013

Date	Day	Destination	Adult Fare	OAP/Child
06/07/2013	Saturday	Wye Valley & Chepstow	£11.00	£10.00
24/07/2013	Wednesday	Royal Welsh Show (Coach Only)	£12.00	£11.00
25/07/2013	Thursday	Cotswolds Villages - Day Trip	£11.95	£10.95
27/07/2013	Saturday	Weston Super Mare	£12.00	£11.00
03/08/2013	Saturday	Windsor	£14.00	£13.00
06/08/2013	Tuesday	Moreton in the Marsh 'Cotswolds'	£11.00	£10.00
11/08/2013	Sunday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£8.50
13/08/2013	Tuesday	West Midlands Safari (Coach Only)	£14.50	£13.50
17/08/2013	Saturday	Wells & Burnham on Sea	£11.50	£10.95
25/08/2013	Sunday	Drayton Manor (Coach Only)	£15.00	£13.00
31/08/2013	Saturday	Tenby & Saundersfoot	£10.95	£10.00
11/09/2013	Wednesday	Carmarthen Market & Tenby	£ 9.50	£ 9.00
21/09/2013	Saturday	Bicester, Oxfordshire	£14.00	£13.00
12/10/2013	Saturday	Tewksbury & Ross on Wye 'Labels'	£11.50	£10.50
26/10/2013	Saturday	Stratford Upon Avon (Early Xmas Shopper)	£12.95	£11.95
23/11/2013	Saturday	Cheltenham Christmas Shopper	£11.50	£11.00
30/11/2013	Saturday	Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre	£13.75	£13.00
TBA	Await Date	Caerphilly Medieval Xmas Fayre	TBA	TBA
08/12/2013	Sunday	Bath Christmas Market	£13.75	£12.75
22/12/2013	Sunday	London Xmas Shopping & Sights	£20.00	£19.00

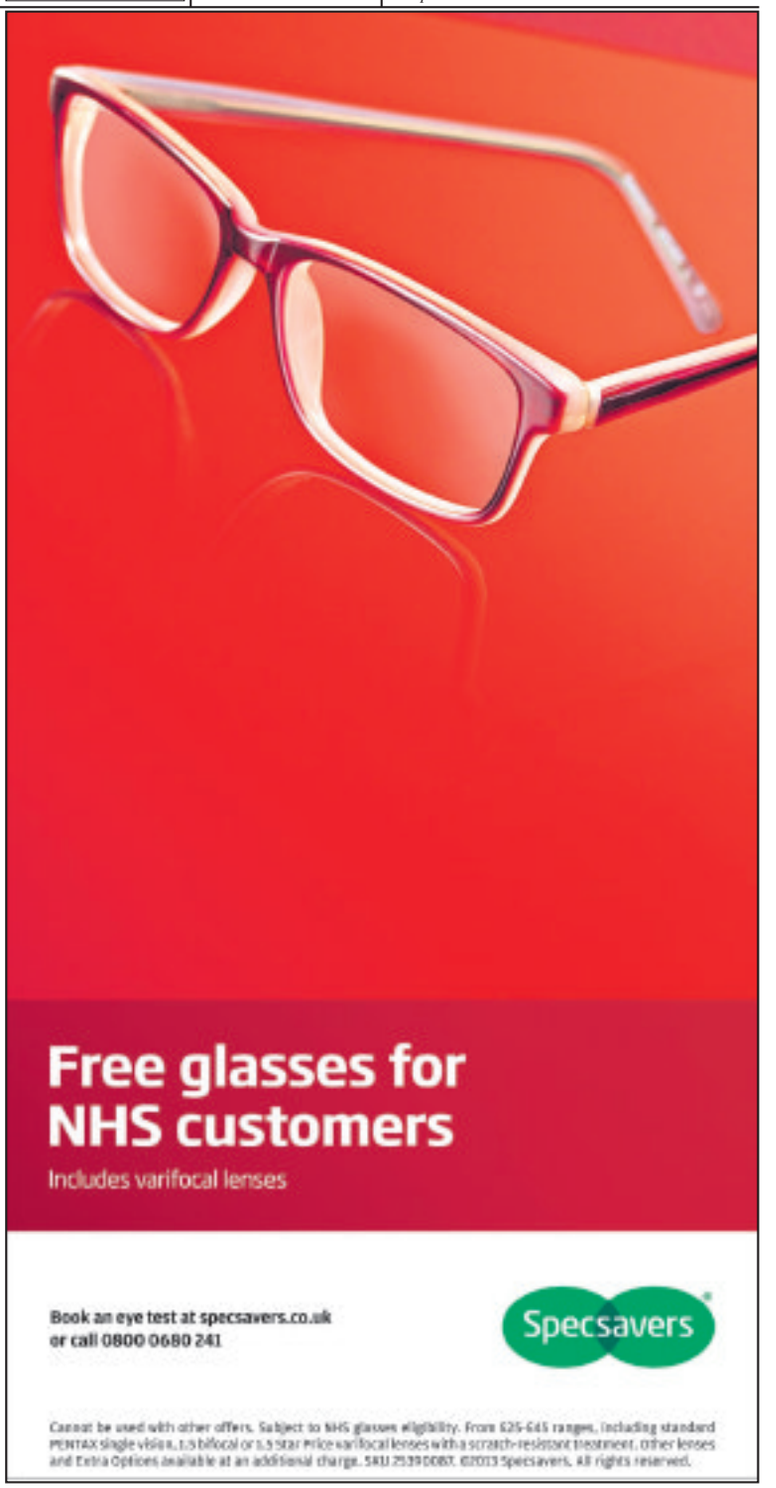
Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR DAY TRIPS OR THE HIRE OF COACHES & MINI-BUSES CALL

Cresta Coaches

Telephone 01656 - 660366

or call at Cresta Coaches,
Unit 6, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 2AL



Stand by for the Vale Show!

FEW outdoor events in the Vale this summer will rival the thrills and excitement on offer at the Vale of Glamorgan Show.

This large established county show attracts hundreds of trade stands, spectators and exhibitors from all over Britain.

It is a diverse event, attracting an audience of more than 20,000. A wide variety of stalls is set up on the field, with a selection of goods on sale, from luxury cars to small gifts.

There is a craft fair, Cooke & Arkwright food hall, and Birkett LGA shopping mall to house the small trader– while outside, there are more than 250 retail stands with many bars and food outlets.

*There is still time to be included; visit **www.valeofglamorgan-show.co.uk** for more information or telephone **j01446 710099.***

PENARTH TOY AND TRAIN SALE

THE next major collectors' Toy and Train sale at Cardiff will take place on Saturday, July 6, between 10.30am and 3pm at Penarth Leisure Centre, Cogan.

The centre is situated near Cogan Railway Station. The sale attracts about 100 tables and includes many of the leading dealers and collectors from across Wales and also from all over England.

NEXT GREAT SHOW...
CARDIFF TOY & TRAIN SALE
SATURDAY, 6th JULY, 2013
10.30am - 3.00pm
Penarth Leisure Centre, Andrew Road, Cogan, Penarth, Cardiff CF64 2NS
Travel by Train - Cogan Station next to Venue!
BUY ★ ★ SELL ★ ★ EXCHANGE
Many top dealers in Dinky, Corgi, Matchbox, EFE, Lledo, Britains, Hornby Trains, Bachmann, Lima, etc., and much, much more. 100 Tables.
Admission £1.75 - Child/OAP £1.35
Enquiries: 01643 702757 or 07966 694579
www.chrisdyerfairs.co.uk

Should you be saving?

IT is a good idea for most people to have some money put aside for an emergency fund – which may be needed, for example, to repair your car or replace a boiler.

Putting money away regularly would help you achieve this, as well as saving for more pleasurable situations, such as a holiday.

However, before you start saving, you need to consider your finances and whether you can afford to save.

You should think about clearing your debts, especially if the interest costs are higher than you would earn on your savings.

Understand your income and expenses so that you are clear about your budget and how much money you have to spare.

You should also consider your financial protection against death or illness, as well as your pension plans, because if these areas are currently under-funded, it may be more prudent to use your spare funds to improve these areas before you start saving.

Once you have decided to save, the next step is to consider when your savings will be needed in the future, and how much risk you are prepared to take with them, as well as the tax efficiency of your savings plan.

Contact CBK Wales for details of our new service, where you have the choice of advice specifically for your saving needs.

CBK clear and concise financial advice
84 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX
Telephone: 0300 303 8525
www.cbkwales.co.uk
Email: info@cbkwales.co.uk
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GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

VALE OF GLAMORGAN SHOW

Wednesday 21st August 2013
Fonmon Castle Park, Nr. Cardiff Airport
Adults: £10
Senior Citizens £8
Children £5
Family (2+2) £25
Contact: 01446 710099
www.valeofglamorganshow.co.uk
A great day out for all the family!

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS...

HERE at Thomas Kitchens and Bedrooms, we believe that "*Home is where the heart is*" – which is why we are committed to providing quality products at affordable prices.

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With a variety of special offers, flexible design appointments, quality products at competitive prices, a welcoming showroom and over 20 years' installation experience, Thomas Kitchens and Bedrooms can take the strain out of making that dream transformation a reality.

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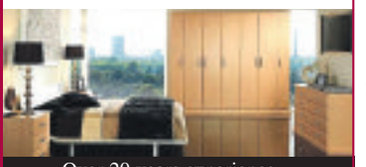
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www.thomaskitchensandbedrooms.co.uk

Cycle safely into summer!

THE summer break is just around the corner, but are your family's bikes ready for the holiday?

Modern life means there's rarely time in the day to take your bikes to get them serviced or fixed, so we operate a free collect and return workshop and mobile repairs service across the Vale to keep you and your bikes fit!

For the summer, Vale Cycling Service is offering special rate multi-bike discounts. You can have three or more bikes serviced at the same time (two kids' bikes, 18" wheel size and under = one bike) from £35 each (parts included).

Contact Vale Cycle Servicing: mobile 07812 033 064 or www.ValeCycleServicing.co.uk.

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Mobile or Collect & Return FREE across the Vale
• Servicing • Repairs • Tyres & Tubes
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WWW.VALECYCLESERVICING.CO.UK
E: PETER@VALECYCLESERVICING.CO.UK

Festival showcase for adult learning

STAFF and students at Barry Adult Education centres are preparing to showcase learners' achievements at the annual learning festival and exhibition at Palmerston Community Learning Centre, July 8–13.

The festival has been extended to run over the whole week, to allow the public more opportunities to view the exhibition and find out more about courses starting in September.

The exhibition on Monday, July 8, will be officially opened at 6.30pm by Coun Margaret Wilkinson.

It will showcase the achievements of learners attending a wide variety of creative arts and ICT courses at community learning centres in Barry including paintings and drawings, photography, patchwork and textiles, ceramics and glass, upholstery and sugarcraft.

The centre will be open to visitors all week (both daytime and evening). July 9–12 (9.30am-8.30pm) and all day Saturday, July 13 (9.30am-4.40pm).

Throughout the week, there will be a full programme of free taster workshops and demonstrations.

For details, call 01446 733762. Enrolments are being taken for courses commencing in September, and this is an ideal opportunity to drop in for information and advice, see for yourself some of the work produced on the courses, and talk to the tutors.

Adult & Community Learning
Palmerston Learning Festival 2013
Art & Crafts Exhibition
Taster Workshops
Enrolments
Information & Advice about courses in September
ADMISSION FREE
Exhibition Launch Monday 8th July 6.30pm
Open ALL WEEK
Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th July
9.30am - 8.30pm
Saturday 13th July 9.30 - 4.30pm.
Palmerston Community Learning Centre
Tel 01446 733762

Council asking if residents 'can' recycle even more cans!

NEARLY eight billion cans are sold in the UK every year! Potentially, each one could be recycled over and over again, saving energy, raw materials and waste.

Vale recycling crew member Ben Stradling asks that every time you have a drink in this type of container, please make sure you place it in either your blue bag or green co-mingled recycling box.

It really is vital that everyone one of us aims to divert as much material possible from our black bag collections.

Vale Council cabinet member for the environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis urges: "Think about other cans you can also include in our weekly kerbside collection service.

"Be sure to add pet food cans, sweet tins, baked beans, pasta, soups and tomatoes – to name but a few. We ask that residents rinse all cans before adding them."

What's in your bin?
Tel: 01446 700111 Email: visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
Our Recycling Team put the SPOTLIGHT ON
Asking if you 'can' recycle more cans...

Ben Stradling
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Emmaus community 'first' for Bridgend...

Trustees needed with skills in:

emmaus

Financial Management
Social Work
Legal Affairs
Marketing/PR
Human Resources
Building Management
Recycling

Contact Justin Horton, Director on
07897 388224

EMMAUS South Wales is enjoying exciting times, with the prospect of opening the first Emmaus community in Wales in Bridgend in 2014.

It will give 23 previously homeless people the chance to come off benefits, live in a community home and work to support themselves and help others.

To fund this, we plan to open another six retail outlets by 2016 adding to the three shops we already have. We need people with the expertise, time and commitment to make this happen. This is an exciting and hugely rewarding opportunity. Training will be given.

See our website emmaussouthwales.org.uk for contact details.

We're here to help you hear!

DO you, or someone you know, suffer from hearing problems, or constant 'ringing in the ears'?

The Hearing and Independent Living Centre is pleased to announce the opening of its newest hearing testing facility within the Barry Eye Centre.

We offer a free hearing test and demonstration of the latest wireless digital hearing systems with one of our fully-qualified hearing professionals.

We also offer the Xino Tinnitus, small and comfortable in-ear devices designed to deliver all day relief from tinnitus (ringing in the ears).

So give us a call, you may not know what you are missing. Free home demonstration available, call 0800 587 2318.

Looking to advertise in over 42,000 newspapers, from Penarth to Porthcawl AND online? Then contact us on 01446 774484 or email: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk*

Vale Show's lifetime award for David!

ABOVE: David Tew receives his Vale Show lifetime achievement award.

WHEN Mr David Tew made what he thought was a routine call to Ty Canol farm, he was surprised to be greeted by a number of local farmers who had gathered to present him with the Vale of Glamorgan Show's lifetime achievement award for services to agriculture.

Coun Ray Thomas, chairman of the show, presented the award to a very surprised Mr Tew, who 24 years was a Genus AI technician.

He is well known throughout the farming district of the Vale for his reliable, friendly manner when providing a well-informed professional service.

This was a very well-deserved award to a valued and much-liked member of the farming community in the Vale whose van can be seen travelling many miles up and down the A48.

Preparations for the Vale Show are now well under way. There is still a little room on some of the trade stand aisles and we would be interested in hearing from anyone wishing to be among the 250 stands on offer.

All the schedules are now available to view on the website www.valeofglamorgan-show.co.uk and further information can be obtained by emailing Nicola on vale.show@btinternet.com 01446 710099.

The Vale of Glamorgan Show takes place at Fonmon Castle on August 21, and we look forward to seeing you there…. It is the largest one day event in the Vale and a great day out for all the family!

NICOLA GIBSON
(General secretary)

Author's talk to Vale Trust group

THE Vale Association of the National Trust's first daytime meeting was held at Dyffryn last week, when Barry author. Eileen Younghusband, spoke about her wartime experiences.

She is a most amazing lady, and will be in Cowbridge soon for her 92nd birthday when she launches her latest book.

This was a most successful event, followed by a fascinating guided tour of the garden in perfect weather.

The coach trip on Monday to Dyrham Park was also well attended and enjoyed by all.

Our next event is the coach trip to Dynefwr on July 23, and seats are still available (£17). Email vofgant@gmail.com or contact Marilyn Ivey to book your place.

JH

Age Concern's Barry event

AGE CONCERN Cardiff and Vale held a very successful free Foot event at Barry Memorial Hall, attended by Coun Mayor of the Vale, Margaret Wilkinson and her consort, and Coun Claire Curtis and her consort.

Stalls gave advice on care of feet, reflexology, foot massage, diabetes, and Care and Repair in the Vale.

Taster sessions of activities operating in the Vale were organised by Ageing Well Project in the Vale, sponsored by Barry Round Table. Another event is hoped to take place in Llantwit Major in October.

COMPUTER WARNING: *Beware this novel scam!*

Penarth Computer Club news

THE papers are full of stories about senior officials letting us and themselves down – it is refreshing to have someone actually owning up to being a bit daft and falling for a computer scam.

Mike F confessed his lapse to alert members of Penarth Computer Club. He switched on his computer to be faced with a police message saying they had disabled his computer because it had recently been misused and he could avoid prosecution only if he immediately paid a cash fine.

Certainly his computer wouldn't work. As an innocent party, he wanted to get his machine sorted and then tackle the mistake. To do this he had to go out and buy a voucher and return to enter the code it contained.

Only then did he ring Cheshire police to tackle the problem – to be told that he had been the victim of a scam and that the scammers now had the value of his voucher and he could not get it back.

Mike has been well aware of the existence of scams for some time. What caught him out was the newness of the approach and the convincing presentation.

The scam is known as the Cheshire Police Authority Ukash Virus. You can Google it and find out more, including how to get rid of it easily.

You might have to get a friend to do the Googling, of course. The main lesson is that first you have to be suspicious of such incidents and don't part with any money. You are better prepared if your anti-virus software is fully up to date.

After sympathising with Mike F, we got down to the business of the evening; a quiz by Mike J, while the order for fish and chips was processed. The quiz is not to be taken seriously and was punctuated by some friendly banter.

A nicely balanced set of questions contained no music ones (hooray) and just a single computer-related one (we are not nerds!).

First and last teams were separated by 10 per cent of the total available points.

The fish and chips arrived and the chatter started as we dined. Nic made tea to supplement the bring-your-own refreshments.

Members were reminded that the last meeting would be our open evening on July 9. They were invited to bring along their laptops or computers; be prepared to show visitors how they use them and answer questions about the club.

Our last meeting before our summer break is Tuesday, July 16 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, from 7.45pm to 9.30pm. It is a free open evening, as part of Penarth Festival Meet us informally, have a cup of tea and see what we do. Visit penarth-computerclub.co.uk

HOWARD DESMOND

Regional AM's advice surgeries

ELUNED PARROTT, AM for South Wales Central, will be holding advice surgeries on Friday, July 5 in the café area of Asda Pentwyn Superstore, 8 Dering Road, Pontprennau, CF23 8NL between 10am and 11am, and at Morrisons Supermarket, Penny Way, Barry, CF63 4BA between 1pm and 2pm.

On July 6 she will be at her constituency office, 38 The Parade, Roath, Cardiff, CF24 3AD between 12 noon and 1pm. No appointment is necessary.

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MP supports veterans' charity

VALE MP Alun Cairns joined blind veterans at a special House of Commons tea party held by Blind Veterans UK (formerly St Dunstan's), the charity for vision impaired ex-Servicemen and women, to celebrate its 'Tarts for Troops' fundraising campaign.

Mr Cairns is pictured holding a fun Tarts for Troops tea cup with blind veterans Ken Facal and David Martin.

He is urging his constituents to support Tarts for Troops which kicks off on June 29, Armed Forces Day, and is about having fun and raising money to support the vital work of Blind Veterans UK.

There are many ways for people to get involved with Tarts for Troops, whether they hold a bake-off, a tarts and tea party, get together with colleagues at work for tarts with their morning coffee, or have friends around for a gourmet tart dinner party.

For more information about Tarts for Troops and to register events, go to www.tartsfortroops.org.uk.

Mr Cairns (centre) with blind veterans Ken Facal and David Martin.

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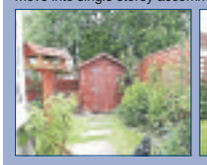

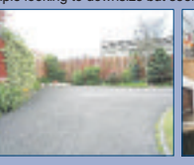

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LLANTWIT MAJOR - £165,000

Modern well presented three bedroom semi-detached house with integral garage comprising Hallway, Lounge/Diner with patio doors to rear, Newly fitted Kitchen, Modern newly fitted Bathroom. Gas central heating. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Driveway and garden to front and rear. Ref 705D

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £135,000

Modern three bedroom end of link house with garage in a block. Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, New fitted Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Open plan garden to front – Workshop and enclosed garden to rear. No chain. Ref 711D

EAST ABERTHAW - £245,000

NEW ON THE MARKET

Four bedroom semi-detached house with large garden and Conservatory to the rear located on the coastal road between the village of Rhoose and East Aberthaw. Entrance Porch, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Cloakroom, Utility Room, Bathroom. UPVC double glazing and solid fuel heating. Off road parking and views over the coastline. Ref 713D.

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £179,500

NEW ON THE MARKET

Modern three bedroom extended detached house with integral garage comprising Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Modern Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Driveway and open plan garden to front and good size garden to the rear. Ref 715D.

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £177,000

NEW ON THE MARKET

Modern well presented three bedroom end of link property situated in a cul-de-sac with Conservatory to the rear comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Dining area, Modern Bathroom. Double glazed windows. Gas central heating. Open plan to the front and allocated parking to the side and above average size rear garden. Potential to extend. Ref 717D.

ST ATHAN - £89,000

NEW ON THE MARKET

Two bedroom mid link dwelling house and garage comprising Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Modern Bathroom. UPVC double glazed windows and doors. Gas central heating. Open aspect to front and garden to both front and rear. No onward chain. Ref 718D.

LLANTWIT MAJOR - £120,000

NEW ON THE MARKET

Substantial three storey Edwardian terraced town house located in the heart of the old part of town which is in need of refurbishment throughout. Hallway, Kitchen, Utility Room, Living Room, Five Bedrooms, Bathroom. Gas central heating. Courtyard and outbuilding to rear. Freehold. Ref 719D

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Graduations

Congratulations

Janine Baker

BSc (Hons) Forensic Science Physical Chemistry & Education

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LOUISE KNIGHT

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Family Notices

HARTLAND
Sylvia

Peacefully on 25th June at Brocastle Manor Care Home. Sylvia, devoted wife of the late James and much loved mum of Trevor.

Funeral service at St Athan village church, Friday 5th July 11.00 am. Flowers may be sent to W James & Sons, Funeral Directors, Fonmon.

HARRIS
Beatrice

Peacefully on the 27th June 2013 at her home in Llantwit Major, Beatrice, beloved wife of the late Edmund (Eddy) and devoted mother of Gwilliam, Lulu, Muriel, Susan, Nicholas, Nigel, Ann and the late David and Brian.

She was a loving grandmother and great grandmother and will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in St.Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major on Friday 5th July at 10.30am, followed by interment at Boverton Cemetery.

Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

DAVIES
Elizabeth Mary

Following many years of illness, bravely borne, Mary, aged 79 years, passed away peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 30th June. Beloved wife of Graham, dearly loved mother of Robert, Richard and Cathryne and devoted grandmother of Nicholas, Isabelle, Miranda, Rebecca, Bethan, Ellie and Thomas. She will be sadly missed.

Funeral Service at St John the Baptist Church, Llanblethian on Tuesday, 9th July at 12 noon, followed by private service at the Crematorium. Family flowers only.

WILLIAMS
Gloria Ethel

Suddenly, but peacefully on 25th June 2013, Gloria of Llantwit Major.

Dearly loved wife of Colin and a much loved mother of Susan, Colin, Diane and the late Tony. She was a respected mother in law of Ben, Peter and Sonia, also a loving grandmother and greatgrandmother who will be sorely missed by her family and friends.

Funeral service on Tuesday 9th July in Coychurch Crematorium at 11.00.a.m.

Enquiries to W.A.Brown & Son. 01446 792489

JOHNSTON
John George

Peacefully at Holme Towers, Penarth after a short illness on June 24th, George of Youldon House, Dinas Powys. Dearly beloved husband of the late Marjorie, much loved dad of John and Wendy. Adored grampa of Matthew, Daniel, Bethany, Mandy and Shelley, great-grampa Georgie of Jade, Eve, Orla and Poppy. Loving brother of Ronnie.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until his Funeral Service in the Chapel on Friday, July 5th at 2pm, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 3pm. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

BROWN
Nerys Alwena

Peacefully at the Barry Hospital on June 30th, Nerys of Porth-y-Castell, Barry. Dearly beloved wife of Albert, much loved mami of Dafydd and Owain, daughter of Olwen and her late father Glyn of Rhydymeudwy Farm, Llanelidan, sister of Geraint, Bethan and Ioan.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynewydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until her Funeral Service in the Chapel on Monday, July 8th at 1.15pm, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to Velindre Cancer Centre Fundraising, Velindre Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

WHITELEGG
Eileen

Bill, Paul, Helen and the family would like to thank all the many colourfully attired friends who attended the celebration of Eileen's life at St Illtyd's Church on the day of the Summer Solstice and Reverend Huw Butler's kind and thoughtful words.

We are so grateful for the kindness and support we have been shown and for the many, many cards and messages of sympathy received.

In particular, we would like to thank all those friends and neighbours who supported Eileen both in healthy times and through her long battle with dementia. Bill and Eileen valued your help enormously.

Also our special thanks go to all those in the support organisations including: Dr Anna Foreman and the staff at the Eryl Group Practice; the Wednesday congregation at St Illtyd's Church; the Gathering Place, St Athan, where mum went on Mondays; Louise McCarthy at Social Services; all the carers from Vale Care, they really came through for Eileen each and every day; the staff on Ward 2 at Bridgend Hospital and all those at Milsom House where she spent her final days so gracefully and received such great care.

How can we thank you all? We will be forever grateful for your kindness and support.

Finally, our thanks to St Athan Golf Club for organising Eileen's reception, as an ex-ladies captain she would have been so pleased, and also to Alan Pacey at Adams Funeral Directors whose manner, compassion and expertise once again helped us through such a difficult time.

She may be gone, she will not be forgotten.

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Barbara & Ken Walker

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STEPPING OUT IN VALE FOR MACMILLAN CAUSE

'Please join our charity walk!'

STAFF at the Cowbridge branch of Yorkshire Building Society are calling on residents to join their charity walk to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Rachel Davies, Jo Williams, Hannah Lane, Jessica Treharne and branch manager, Jon Tucker will be walking the eight miles from the branch on High Street, Cowbridge on Saturday, July 20 at 1pm, passing Llansannor Court and church, Dr Salmon's Wells, Penllyn Castle and two welcoming Vale inns.

Manager Jon Tucker explained: "A lot of our customers and colleagues know someone who has been affected by cancer in some way and we wanted to do something to help a cause that's committed to helping people who need it.

"I hope the people of Cowbridge will come out and join us, take in the sights of the local area and raise money for Macmillan."

At play with the Honey Monster

Pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge had a surprise visit from the Honey Monster, who joined the children at break time for photos and even had a kickabout in the playground, before sharing lots of hugs and high fives! Honey Monster, or 'Anghenfil Mel', as he learned in his Welsh lesson, also popped into Ysgol Y Bont-faen this week.

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Tristan Greedy would like to inform all of his customers that due to business expansion they have moved from the Heritage Business Park, Wick Road, Llantwit Major to their new premises (next door to the Post Office sorting office), Llandow, Vale Business Park – and it's business as normal.

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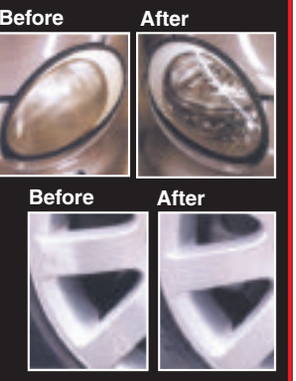

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Golf club's 'Better Ball' competition a success

BJ Hawkins and Hugh Williams.

PAST and present golfers had the chance to reminisce when RAF St Athan Golf Club recently hosted its annual member and guest four-ball better ball'competition.

Despite the blustery conditions, the club captain, Hugh Williams and his partner, Gwyn Jones were adamant they would be at the top of the leaderboard, and they achieved their goal (albeit it for a short time) by ensuring they were in the first group to tee off at 7.45am!

The greenkeeping staff must once again be congratulated for the immaculate presentation of the course. The guests playing RAF St Athan for the first time were pleasantly surprised at just how formidable the course is with its narrow, tree-lined fairways, and quickly realised that club selection is paramount.

A couple of members were given short notice that their guests would not be able to attend.....double bookings in diaries with a Lions Test Match!

Club members Stu Jennings and Degs Cox didn't let the absence of their guests deter them from playing; they joined forces and romped into the clubhouse with a magnificent 47 points.

Graciously accepting that they couldn't win the aptly named member and guest competition, both were delighted when the captain presented them with consolation vouchers for The New York Deli in Cardiff.

It was early evening before Hugh was persuaded to change out of his golfing attire and into his captain's jacket to announce the results and the presentation of prizes.

Hugh took the opportunity to thank everyone who had contributed to making the day a success, including the catering and bar staff who worked extremely hard throughout, and especially Pauline Lewis, who had the onerous task of deciphering the scorecards.

Results: First BJ Hawkins and A Pritchard (44 points), 2nd JWG Morgan and T Graham (43), 3rd S Hampson and G Daly (43); nearest the pins: BJ Hawkins and Russ Bryan, longest drive: C Sherman.

Twos: D Ringwood, R Bryan, JWG Morgan, C White, M Clark, R Davidge, J Miller; raffle winners: S Amos, A Muir, J Hawkins, I Clemo, G Jones, B Savage, A Hawkins, D Cox, P Morgan, G Daly, A Brown, S Bacon.

RAF St Athan Golf Club warmly welcomes new social and playing members of all ages and categories; for further information, visit the club or contact the club manager on 01446 751043.

CM

Bowlers' cup win

ON Wednesday, Llantwit Major men's bowlers played close neighbours Cowbridge in the Munro Cup, and as usual home advantage paid off, with Llantwit winning 112-41.

Steve Booker's rink took an early lead which they held throughout the game, scoring 20 shots on the final few ends to win by 24.

Danny Ahearne's rink had a tougher tussle. They went seven shots up after three ends, holding the lead for five ends before going behind on the 12th. However, they regained the lead on the final three ends to win by six shots.

Neville Young's rink started slowly, being down until the fourth end. After taking the lead, Llantwit kept Cowbridge on eight shots for five ends, with Bert Collings giving them a good start; a score of seven shots by Llantwit on the 16th end ended any hope of a comeback by the opposition, who lost by 20 shots.

Richard George's rink were nine up after three ends; Cowbridge then held Llantwit on 10 for four ends before the home side surged ahead, taking the last eight ends while scoring 16 shots to win by 21.

JY

Rugby team back in action

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC senior team start back to training this evening (July 4).

They start with the newly-reformed youth (ages 16 to 19) from 6.30pm until 7.30pm, and at 7pm the senior teams begin.

We would like to invite all old and new players to come and play for the club and hopefully be part of another exciting season, both on and off the field; contact head coach Darren Joy on 07976 949520 for more information.

MP

Society starts golf season

THE Blacksmiths golf society has held its first two fixtures of the season at favourite local courses.

At Coed y Mwstwr, Philemon Williams pipped Roy Whitehouse for runner-up spot on a back nine countback, both finishing one point behind winner Bill Aspinall.

At St Andrews Major, Gary Nealon continued his fine run of form, coming home with 35 stableford points, but finished one point behind the winner John Campbell.

The next fixture is the eagerly anticipated 'Blacksmiths closed', this year being held at RAF St Athan golf club on July 19.

CG

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Vale Seconds 'wilt in heat'

VALE Seconds travelled to Croesyceiliog with only 10 men and a number of young faces in the side.

With the sun beating down, stand in skipper Mark Francis lost the toss and Vale were asked to field.

The skipper and Harrish Kannan bowled good opening spells with Kannan striking in his first over as 15-year-old Matthew Harper took a good catch behind the stumps.

The change bowling saw the introduction of Tom Taylor and Will Lloyd but the second wicket partnership was beginning to build a sizeable partnership although Vale weren't helping themselves as they twice put down Webber. Young under-16 Wales player L Kear was strking the ball fluently and Vale began to wilt in the heat.

Taylor finally struck in the 25th over ending a 131 run partnership bowling Webber for 52. As the Vale youngsters were introduced to the attack they found life hard going on the good wicket as 166 runs were conceded in 18 overs.

However, 13-year-old Angus James took his first wicket for the senior sides as another youngster, 15-year-old Luke John, held a catch at short mid wicket.

L Kear completed a fine century but when on nelson the bogey struck as he hit a catch to Luke John at mid-on which was well held off the bowling of Will Lloyd.

Luke John returning for a second spell finally got a wicket as Kannan held a good catch at long off to remove G Webber for 57.

Croesyceiliog had amassed 300-5 off their 45 overs. The Vale bowling figures were Mark Francis 9-1-44-0, Harrish Kannan 9-2-46-1, Tom Taylor 9-0-38-1, Will Lloyd 8-0-67-1, Luke John 7-0-72-0 and Angus James 3-0-27-1.

Vale were short on batting so a more realistic target was to achieve some batting points and Francis knew a lengthy stay from him was required.

Things started well for Vale as Francis and Taylor put on 49 for the first wicket. The skipper was cutting particularly well and lofted a big straight six. However, the partnership was ended when Taylor was run out by a direct hit.

Although having scored 1 in the 13 overs his stay had provided valuable support to his skipper. Vale then lost a couple of further wickets before youngster Harper and Francis put together a 37 run partnership.

Harper perished hitting in the air but had made a very useful 17. As a cascade of wickets then fell the skipper passed his 50 to try and edge his side to a batting point.

With the last man in the skipper decided it was time to take some chances and after finding the ropes a couple of times was caught on the long on boundary for an excellently made 65.

Young leg spinner A Laasna ended with figures of 4-12 and Vale were bowled out for 123 suffering a 177 run defeat and just failing to collect a batting point.

MF

Students' karate grading success

SEVENTEEN students from the AKAD (Association of Karate and Allied Disciplines) undertook their karate grading recently.

This involved them performing basic techniques (Kihon), pre arranged sparring (Kumite) and a memorised sequence of movements (Kata).

The following grades were awarded: 1st kyu – Deiniol Knight; 3rd Kyu – Phoebe Lewis and Laura Ward; 5th Kyu – Mike Fox, Abi Fox, Felice Cirino, Megan Cirino, Alex Murphy, Hannah Murphy, Jamie Murphy and Sofia Creedon; 6th Kyu – Rebecca Kitt; 7th Kyu – Chris Evans; 8th Kyu – Thomas Firth, Halen Marshall-Carter, Caitlin Evans and Max Evans.

All their hard work over the past few months really paid off on the night, with everyone successful in achieving their new grades.

The club trains on a Monday and Wednesday evening at Ysgol Pen-y-Garth's sports hall (Sully Road) between 6pm–7pm. There is also a training session on Monday evenings between 7pm–8pm for higher grades.

The club's Instructor Stuart Creedon was also presented with his 5th Dan certificate by Kyoshi Colin Jenkins (7th Dan).

For further information, contact Stuart Creedon on 07919 058 069.

SC

Dinas appoints new manager

DINAS POWYS FC has announced the appointment of a new first team manager, Dave Penikett.

Dave is a previous player and captain of the club who played for us for many years, is local to the club and he also coaches within our junior section.

Dave brings a wealth of Welsh League experience with him to the role and we hope he can progress the club in the near future and carry on the previous excellent work of Mark Dunford and Phil Clay.

Dave has outlined his aims and objectives to take the club back to its roots, recruiting as many homegrown players as possible and reigniting the interest around the village for Dinas Powys FC.

Unattached players are welcome to contact Dave on 07816 929727.

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GEM sport

Now Gatland gambles on his tried and trusted for final test

BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

IN what is now a sporting cliché as familiar as the well-worn '*game of two halves*', Sir Alf Ramsey, England's World Cup winning manager in 1966, first coined the tenet – "*never change a winning team*!"

Cliché or no, 47 years on, it remains as true for the oval ball as the round one – so Warren Gatland, the British & Lions head coach, knew the calculated gamble he was taking in making five changes from the first test for the second and penultimate clash with Australia at the Etihad stadium, Melbourne, on Saturday – admittedly, two enforced by injury.

The pragmatic Kiwi asserted: *"It's never about not changing a winning team. It's about picking the best side to do a job for us. Our whole focus is on winning the match, and the series…*"

Given that the Lions had declared they expected another tight, *"brutal"* battle, and were "*prepared to win ugly*", some of the selections, particularly in the front five – lacking the injured Paul O'Connell's formidable presence, or specialist second row cover on the bench to add muscle (no Ian Evans or Richie Gray) were also clearly a gamble.

This was all the more surprising, in light of the tourists' previous problems at the scrum, highlighted once tight head prop Adam Jones had left the field in the first test – and it proved to be the case yet again in Melbourne, though this time it proved more costly, as the tourists slipped to an agonising 15-16 last-minute defeat.

In addition, the axing of combative scrum half Mike Phillips in favour of the smaller, quicker Ben Youngs, caused some surprise, particularly as the conservative game plan called for tight control up front, hence the need to stiffen the weakened pack with the destructive Dan Lydiate.

True, Phillips had not been at his best during the Lions' narrow 23-21 win in the first test, but given the context, his qualities as a 'ninth forward' were missed on Saturday, while Youngs failed to make the expected impact and was substituted by Conor Murray – ironically, a player more in the Phillips mould!

Confusingly, the coach had stated that the Welshman was available for selection, but had been carrying an injury, that his knee was "sore", and they had decided to rest him: "*We felt it was prudent to have him 100 per cent ready for the third test*".

That had left the Lions' camp open to the questionable notion that they were not as confident of clinching the series last weekend as they appeared to be – else why keep their first choice No 9 under wraps for a third match that would have little at stake with mission accomplished?

The selection gamble was soon challenged, as a fired-up Australia predictably targeted a perceived weakness in the tourists' front row, with young loose head prop Mako Vunipola given a torrid time early on.

Even so, it was the Lions who had the first chance to go ahead, full back Leigh Halfpenny's penalty attempt ricocheting off a post – but he made amends minutes later with the first of five successful penalties, after Lions' pressure – including one huge concerted drive that propelled the Wallabies back on their heels.

However, soon the boot was on the other foot, with two penalties awarded in quick succession against Vunipola, which Christian Leali'ifano converted, but then the Lions suddenly won a scrum penalty of their own and Halfpenny struck to level the score.

As infringements mounted on both sides, the Lions lost a line-out when hooker Tom Youngs threw long (something of a rarity on this tour!) but five minutes later, Halfpenny put the tourists back into the lead, only for Leali'ifano to level it again with a well-struck penalty. Almost on halftime, the street-wise Wallabies averted a try under their posts by conceding a penalty, which Halfpenny stroked over, to regain the lead at 12-9 – and 10 minutes after the change-over, he made it 15-9 with a fifth successful penalty.

Then began a desperate rearguard action as the Lions grimly fought to hang onto their six-point margin – with the lure of a historic series victory tantalisingly within their grasp. However, there were shades of recent Welsh misfortunes against the men from Oz, as the embattled tourists faced heartbreak at the death.

With just three minutes left on the clock, their resistance finally broke under a remorseless onslaught, when Australia, having spurned an easy penalty, launched a final attack that saw Adam Ashley-Cooper cross over for a try converted by Leali'ifano to secure a one-point, 16-15, lead.

As the warning hooter went to signal the end of another heart-stopping cliff-hanger, Halfpenny had one last chance with a penalty kick from more than 50 metres – but alas, this time it was not to be.

***"The last thing we want is to be 1-1 going into Sydney for the final test*", Gatland had said before the outset.**

He and the assistant coaches know that the pendulum has now swung away and that is the reality... The Wallabies, who have yet to hit their full stride, go into Saturday's decider with their tails high; while the Lions (minus their inspiring skipper, Sam Warburton) will have to step up several gears from the two earlier test performances if they are to prevail.

• ***As The GEM was going to press yesterday, the team was announced, showing 10 Welshmen in all – and the bombshell dropping of Brian O'Driscoll from the match 23.***

BRITISH AND IRISH LIONS: Leigh Halfpenny (Wales); Tommy Bowe (Ireland), Jonathan Davies (Wales), Jamie Roberts (Wales), George North (Wales); Jonathan Sexton (Ireland), Mike Phillips (Wales); Alex Corbisiero (England), Richard Hibbard (Wales), Adam Jones (Wales), Alun Wyn Jones (captain, Wales), Geoff Parling (England), Dan Lydiate (Wales), Sean O'Brien (Ireland), Toby Faletau (Wales).

Replacements: Tom Youngs (England), Mako Vunipola (England), Dan Cole (England), Richie Gray (Scotland), Justin Tipuric (Wales), Conor Murray (Ireland), Owen Farrell (England), Manu Tuilagi (England).

First win proves elusive for Cowbridge cricketers

AFTER a two week hiatus due to inclement weather, Cowbridge 2nd XI were pleased that the weather was fine and sunny for last Saturday's game against Clydach.

What was also pleasing was the fact that Cowbridge were able to field a full strength side after previous weeks when only a depleted one could be picked.

Upon Cowbridge winning the toss, the captain decided to bat first. This decision initially seemed to be ill advised as an early wicket went down with the score only on 9.

However, a good partnership was then put together between Tim Moss and Sean Rowland which saw the score rise to 49 when Tim was out for a well made 25.

This thankfully did not spell a collapse, as in the past, with both Sean Rowland and Tom Scott-Combes batting very well to push the score along. When Sean was finally out for 27, Tom continued to find the boundary, ably supported by the likes of Ian Evans and Cai Owen.

Tom was finally out for an excellent 49, agonisingly close to his maiden half century which would have justly deserved. After this the Cowbridge tail withered slightly, despite some lusty blows from both Gareth John and John Gilbert, but Cowbridge were still able to post a total of 169 off their 50 overs.

This was a good total but Cowbridge knew that they would have to bowl and field well to stand any chance of victory. Although an early wicket went down to Gareth John, the Clydach captain and other opening batsman proceeded to put together an excellent partnership.

Both ran well between the wickets, assisted at times from some indifferent fielding by the Cowbridge team. Sean Rowland bowled particularly well supported by the consist Ian Evans, but try as they might Cowbridge were unable to stem the flow of runs.

In the end, Clydach reached the total for the loss of 3 wickets off 42 overs with the Clydach captain finishing on 115 not out.

Although this was another defeat for Cowbridge, at least this was a far better team performance than previous weeks. Cowbridge 2nd XI are finding life hard in the first division but the experience the younger members of the side are gaining will hopefully pay dividends for the side, and the club, in the future. **JW**

CCS win for lady bowlers

PENGELLI ladies were visitors to Cowbridge for a CCS match, which Cowbridge lady bowlers won well, 92-27.

On the rink of skip May Jones, with Diane Purnell, Caryl Davies and Shirley Wilkinson, they had a big win by 33-5; skip Helena Snelling's rink with Jan Lewis, Jean Hunt and Joan Bradley, also won very well, 32-8.

On skip Joy Woolford's rink with Lynda Wilson, Mary Dowdle and Anne Jarvis, they also had a good win by 27-14.

Playing in a league game away at Barry Athletic in very wet conditions, the ladies only just lost the match by one shot, with a final score 49-50.

On skip Shirley Wilkinson's rink with Janet Morton, Jan Lewis and Joy Woolford, they won by four shots, 20-16, and on the rink with Lynda Wilson, Phyllis Price May Jones and skip Helena Snelling, they won by one shot, 15-14.

Skip Sue Flower's rink with Diane Purnell, Sylvia Hole and Pat Holdsworth were unfortunate to lose by six shots, 14-20.

The men had two matches away this week, losing both heavily. In the first, a Munro Cup match at Llantwit Major, we lost 41-112, with the closest scoring rink being that of skip Dennis Snelling, with Terry Dunsworth, Bryan Hole and Guy Morton, losing 17-23.

Other losing rink scores were skip Peter Launder's rink, who lost 9-27, Skip Norman Wilkinson's rink lost 7-28, and John Trott's rink lost 8-32.

In a league match at Ynysybwl, we lost 49-114, with, again, only skip Dennis Snelling's rink just losing, 15-18.

The other three rinks lost by big scores; skip Roger Barwick's rink lost 11-32, skip Steve Dickens' lost 11-33, and on the rink of skip Byron Richards they lost 12-31.

The next league match is at home to Penyrheol, who are top of the league table, and we need to win big! **NJW**

Tennis joy for club

IF you take a look at the top of the local tennis leagues you'll see something a little unusual; Cowbridge's adult teams top every competition in which they're playing.

Congratulations need to be extended to the men's Aegon team who have already been promoted, having finished top in the Division 1. With matches against Crickhowell, Whitchurch, Cardiff and Rhiwbina, Cowbridge finished undefeated although Whitchurch took the team to a 13th match tiebreak to choose a winner.

The successful team consisted of Gareth Tremain, Ian Duggan, David Cunningham, Mike Harpin, Anthony James (captain), Allan Duggan and Simon Lake. Well done to all - next year sees the team travelling 2-3 hours for most matches as they are promoted to the regional division.

Within the south Wales Courtstall league, both men's team are undefeated having won all 15 matches played to date. Promotion to the Premiership looks likely for the first team while the second team is hoping to jump a division next year on move into Division 4.

Not to be outdone, we're seeing similar performance in the ladies matches. Having played eight matches each the first team are sitting eight points clear and the second team 12 points clear in the respective divisions, and on current performance we're looking at promotion for both.

With 42 players taking part in the summer leagues this is a real team effort and shows the depth of players within the club. If you're interested in playing, visit us at cltc.web.com for more information. **HM**

RUGBY PLAYERS ARE WELCOMED!

COWBRIDGE RFC's training has started on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Rhys James is again at the helm, with Carwyn Morgan assisting with coaching the backs.

We need two teams this season to mount a real challenge in the league with our youth team also vitally important to our aims, so come on down and join in.

On July 13, there is a night at the club to help Romy raise funds for the trip to South Africa and The Goedgedacht Trust.

There will be a live band and we look forward to your support for what should be a great night for a very important cause; tickets are available from Richard Killick or the club. **RV/RK**

Cowbridge Tennis Club

Whether you're an experienced player, new to tennis or a rusty racket, Cowbridge Tennis Club has something for you.

- *4 all weather courts*
- *Cardio tennis*
- *No joining fee*
- *Xpress tennis*
- *Competitive teams*
- *Social tennis*

Call Barbara on **01446 774506** or visit our website, **cltc.webs.com**

PLAYERS WANTED

LLANTWIT MAJOR under-14s are looking for two outfield players for next season for places in an already strong squad. If interested please call Mark Beattie on 07908 610013.